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Sub-Saharan Africa Report



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NIGHTMARISH ECONOMIC SITUATION DESCRIBED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 84 p 10

[Article by Pierre Haski]

[Text]

"The economy supports the war: the war supports the economy," the national radio reminds Angolans every day.

Looking at the smartly turned-out army, with its brand new Soviet equipment, and the shabbily dressed civilians queueing for scanty food supplies, it becomes clear that this is more than a slogan.

"First we mark off what defence needs, then we share out what is left between the other sectors." This is how Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento explains the drafting of the Angolan national budget.

Officially, Angola spends 29 per cent of its budget on defence. But food for the troops comes under the Trade Ministry, fuel comes under the Oil Minister ... the list is a long one.

Diplomatic circles in Luanda reckon 70 per cent of Angolan resources are swallowed by the war effort, an enormous burden that no economy could stand for long.

"It is difficult to think too much about planning when a war is on," the Planning Minister sighed.

Before independence, Angolan industry and agriculture were run by the Portuguese. Now, the few qualified Angolan technicians are in the army.

Angola is an economist's nightmare. The country is one of the richest in Africa, with oil, diamonds, iron, copper, uranium and 30 other metals and minerals lying beneath its fertile soil.

With the country's varied climate

and land, virtually anything grows easily — even strawberries in the south.

So why do people spend so long in queues for food that they have no time to work? And why do so many — one I met was a qualified agronomist — accept as part of their salary a full square meal a day in a Luanda restaurant?

"When we came to power, we had no idea how to run a country," one Minister admitted candidly. "In the first revolutionary fervour we spent money like water. We had plenty more with our oil, we thought.

"Why manufacture when we could afford to import, we thought. And the public settled down to enjoy the fruits of independence without working."

One major disaster area is coffee. Before independence, Angola was the fourth-biggest world producer, with 220 000 tons. Last year it barely managed 20 000 tons.

The reason, apart from the departure of the Portuguese who knew the market inside out, is that labourers, often forced to move north to the plantations, have now moved to the south, leaving the coffee trees to run wild. In a bid to save the situation, about 520 ha of coffee trees have been handed out to small farmers.

Mr Do Nascimento easily admits what has gone wrong with the country's food production.

Until three years ago, all government money went on equipping state farms, with nothing for the

peasants who produce 70 percent of the country's food.

When it was no longer worth their while, the farmers stopped producing a surplus, growing just enough for their families. The result is that getting a meal in Luanda, which is overflowing with refugees from the south, is a major operation.

But food is to be had in Luanda — at a price. Flourishing black markets operate in the shanty towns on the edge of the capital, with a bottle of whisky fetching 10 000 kwanzas — two-thirds the monthly salary of an office worker. (The official exchange rate is 30 kwanzas to the US dollar, but the black market has little use for the local currency, and a dollar can easily fetch 1 000 kwanzas).

The worst offenders in the black market are the "Zaireans." These are the tens of thousands of Angolans who returned after as much as 20 years' exile in Zaire, an excellent school in sharp dealing.

The Government is only too conscious of the problem: "We need monetary, financial, political and repressive moves," the Planning Minister told me.

The authorities have started with the easiest: heavy-handed clearing

up of the black markets.

On February 18, security forces surrounded a suburban "Zairean" market and razed it to the ground after seizing vast stores of contraband goods.

Smuggling and fraud operate on a huge scale in the diamond industry and cost the Government a fortune each year.

At independence, official production was 2.4 million carats: last year it was under a million carats.

A team of Angolan airline pilots was arrested recently for diamond smuggling along with several dozen state officials.

But everyone knew this was just the tip of the iceberg.

The only sector where business is good is oil. Americans, French, Italians and Belgians have nothing but praise for the Angolan oil authorities and see a big future for the industry.

The oil industry is treated with almost as much respect as the army — and with good reason, for oil accounts for 91 percent of Angola's foreign currency earnings.

The biggest operators are Gulf Oil who have become over the years the Luanda Government's best ambassador in Washington.

The Gulf royalties go straight to Moscow to pay for arms and to Havana to pay for troops. Neither the Angolans nor the Americans seem to find this strange. In fact, 70 percent of Angolan trade is with the West.

Asked whom he preferred to deal with, the marxist Planning Minister replied without hesitation: "Ah, the Americans. It's far easier to do business with them."

CSO: 3400/762

MINISTER: 'OPTIMISM JUSTIFIED' CONCERNING MINERAL SECTOR PLANS

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 23 Feb 84 p 1

[Text]

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, FEBRUARY 22: Botswana is clearly well endowed with mineral resources, many of which almost certainly have not yet been discovered, said the Minister of Mineral Resources and Water Affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe in Parliament yesterday.

She was expounding on what was referred to "as cautious optimism" by the Vice President and Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Mr Peter Mmusi in his budget speech last week Monday.

Dr Chiepe said she felt quite certain that a large measure of optimism was justified concerning Botswana's future hopes and plans for the mineral sector.

She added that the government had successfully created the kind of business climate and mineral policies which were attractive to the private sector.

In an eleven-page speech, in her contribution on the debate on the budget, Dr Chiepe said that the world's mining corporations had responded by engaging in a sustained and vigorous exploration effort. Some of these corporations have developed their projects to the stage of feasibility study and there are others at every stage of

prospecting, she said.

Dr Chiepe told the House that already this year, she had issued nine new prospecting licences and had approved others which would be issued shortly.

She stated that there would be no mineral development without prospecting and private corporations were prepared to put their capital at risk only because they had reasonable expectations of discoveries and profitable investments in mine development.

Dr Chiepe referred to a statement made by Mr Mmusi to the effect that major mineral projects were slow in gestation and infrequent in occurrence.

She explained that there was no fixed pattern, but the example of Shell Coal's Kgaswe project was not unusual. Prospecting began in 1974, a preliminary feasibility study was produced in 1980, final feasibility will be completed in 1984 and, if everything were to go as the government wished, it might just be possible to move the first export coal before the end of the decade.

The Minister called the development a fifteen year cycle from first prospecting to first production. She said in a similar time scale, today's grass roots exploration programme would

perhaps discover mines which would come into production around the turn of the century.

Dr Chiepe also told the House that another reason for emphasising caution was that the mineral resources which have been developed, particularly diamonds, have been extraordinary in every sense.

She explained that the minerals were the reason why Botswana had become one of a very few countries in the world for which the label-developing was an accurate description.

The Minister said it must not be expected that there were more mines to be discovered which could bring the same development potential as Orapa or Jwaneng.

Dr Chiepe said the government expected that new mine developments would play a major role in the economy for the remainder of this century, and beyond.

But, she said the developments which presently appear on the horizon would be different kinds of mineral projects and expressed the hope that these would generate new exports, giving the country a more diversified trading base, among other benefits.

ADDITIONAL LSN VOLUNTEERS FOR COUNTRY

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 23 Feb 84 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE, February 22.

Botswana is to have more volunteers from United Nations Volunteers Service because of shortage of technical personnel here.

This was disclosed by the Executive Coordinator for United Nations Volunteers, Mr Hikmat Nabusi, on a two-day visit here.

Mr Nabusi met high level officials with whom he discussed the needs and requirements of man-power in Botswana.

The United Nations provides Third World countries with professional personnel and technical expertise, he said.

He could not say how many volunteers were going to come, but explained that the government would indicate the needs and the calibre of the needed personnel.

The Executive Coordinator explained that the volunteers service was established in 1970 by the General Assembly and that became operational in 1971. Its aim is to provide third world countries with technical expertise for economic development, he said.

The volunteers are qualified persons but would be under volunteer conditions and would receive modest pay.

He said that he had visited six countries already on the same mission.

The minimum contract for these volunteers is two years but can still be renewed, he further explained.

CSO: 3400/753

LIBERAL PARTY LEADER ADDRESSES FIRST POLITICAL RALLY

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt]

SELEBI PHIKWE FEBRUARY

The leader of the Botswana Liberal Party Mr Martin Chakalisa has said that he formed his political party because of socio-economic development which has been stagnant for the past 17 years under the leadership of the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP).

Addressing his first political rally here since his party was formally registered, Mr Chakalisa said he could not join the other opposition parties because "they have no base and no financial standing".

Mr Chakalisa told the meeting that his party was there to challenge anything that was against the welfare of the people.

The new party's leader questioned the Special Elections Act which gives the Minister of Local Government and Lands powers to specially elect some councillors into district councils.

He said that the Act does not specify the number of councillors that the Minister can elect and this made it difficult for opposition parties since he can elect as many as he chooses.

According to Mr Chakalisa, the BDP used chiefs to win the first general elections in the country, and has since passed many laws that have relegated

the traditional leaders to the periphery of the political scene.

The BLP, Mr Chakalisa said, would give priority to education and agriculture if it came to power.

He said the BDP had ignored the development of human resources, hence Botswana has many uneducated people.

On Agriculture, the BLP leader claimed that his party would dam the many rivers which cross the country and introduce irrigation schemes.

Furthermore, the party would create communal farms where research and experimental work could be carried out.

On the recent crisis along the Botswana/Zimbabwe border Mr Chakalisa said that it was not easy for any country to control border crises. All that was needed to be done, he said, was to request people living along the border to cooperate with the security personnel.

He also observed that Botswana's industries were controlled from outside by multinational corporations which he said, were retarding development in the third world.

However, he stressed that "no African country can afford to nationalise anything because there is no money in the first place."

MINISTER ADDRESSES GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICIES

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 24 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by Charmaine Muir]

[Text]

GABORONE, FEBRUARY 22 Despite the severity of the world economic recession, economic development in Botswana did not come to a halt because the measures taken by the Government proved a success, the Vice President and Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Mr Peter Mmusi, told Parliament this week.

Mr Mmusi said that the achievements of the Government were a direct result of team work.

The House also heard that when the country entered these difficult times, opposition parties, out of malice and ignorance, behaved as though Botswana was the only country suffering and blamed the BDP Government for both the economic recession and the drought.

The Vice President also reminded the House, of the world economic recessions of 1926, 1933, 1945 and 1964, indicating that it was not the first time that the world was gripped in a situation of this nature.

Mr Mmusi further said that although some members of Parliament had expressed doubts over the measures taken by Botswana during this difficult period, "I was sure that they would work." The Vice President said Sales Tax was introduced as a result of the economic recession, and "I am in no hurry to knock it out."

Mr Mmusi said he would rather reduce it gradually, adding that Botswana must learn that Sales

Tax exists in all neighbouring states, and on almost all commodities.

On the reduction on Sales Tax on alcoholic beverages, the Vice President said that this was necessary in order that our alcoholic beverages would be able to compete with others on the market.

Commenting on the distribution of food through the Drought Relief Scheme, the Vice President said that because we were heading for a more severe drought, the Government was obliged to feed many more people.

Quoting from statistics provided, Mr Mmusi noted that presently the Government was feeding over half the population of this country and urged all the officers involved in the food distribution to show dedication and efficiency. He emphasised that they needed the support of all Government departments and opposition political parties.

Mr Mmusi said that by feeding the people, the Government was performing its duty and obligation and was not, as the opposition parties claimed, buying votes.

He also expressed gratitude to the Roman Catholic Church and Bishop Setlalekgosi for supplying food to all the Community Junior Secondary schools in the country.

Many people, he said, had complained about numerous facts and figures on education, the lack of teachers and

unemployment. He said the statistics have been revealed in the budget speech because "it was necessary to expose these figures in order to establish our priorities and to eliminate and solve our problems."

He told the House that the opposition speaks as though it is the responsibility of the Government to provide employment for everyone in the country.

He said although Government was the largest employer in the country, it was essential to create employment by becoming involved in self-employment, especially in the rural areas.

He further explained that the government had introduced policies like FAP and ALDEP which were geared towards the creation of employment.

"Ngamiland topped the rest of the country with 123 approved FAP projects, with the South East and Southern District following with 80 approved projects each," the House was further informed.

Other approved FAP projects included 18 in Chobe, 52 in Serowe, 23 in Tutume, 8 in Ghanzi, 16 in Kgalagadi, 32 in Kgatleng, 20 in Kweneng and 34 in the North East District, the Vice President explained.

Mr Mmusi said that the established philosophy on the economic management of the country had been approved by the Members of Parliament, and had been endorsed as the

philosophy of the country and added that Botswana was regarded in high esteem by international communities, and financial and development agencies which had worked with us.

"They have praised Botswana for its planning ability and implementation capacity," he said.

The United Nations was proposing to hold a seminar on economic development in the country because of the practical examples of good planning and economic management here, he also told the House.

The Vice President said in 1981, the country had a deficit of P70 million, but by the end of that financial year, it had been reduced to P22 million.

He also informed the House that by the end of March, the country would have reduced its deficit to P3 million, and by the end of the 1984/85 financial year, will have a surplus of P45 million.

He disclosed that the total amount of money expected in revenues this year was P649 million, adding that "this is the figure we are working on this year."

Mr Mmusi further explained that "in this year's development plan we are entitled to spend P238 million."

Explaining excess liquidity, the Vice President said that by exporting our valuable goods like diamonds, beef and cooper, we earn foreign currency.

"We sell this money to local banks to buy the Pula, and this creates excess liquidity," he added.

Mr Mmusi said that this year's excess liquidity was a result of the drought and the water restrictions' impact on construction in the country and that because construction work was halted, these companies did not go to banks for loans and therefore the money was not used.

Excess liquidity first came into the country in 1978 when diamond exports increased substantially, but in 1981/82, exports declined and liquidity "dried up," the Vice President told the House.

MPs were also cautioned that it was in times like these that it was important to apply our philosophy of financial management.

He stressed the importance of surplus resources that we can draw on in bad years explaining that the flexibility in the budget was meant to cater for uncertainties in the economic future.

Opposition parties continuously comment that "Mmusi is forever signing loans," he said.

Mr Mmusi told the House, "our capacity to repay the loans depend on the amount of foreign exchange which we have and we have money set aside to repay these loans."

MPs also heard about the importance of assessing our future export earnings, because without them, Mr Mmusi noted, "we would not be able to pay our loans."

Members of the opposition always urge the Government to establish very large industries in the country, the Vice President said, but Botswana did not have a large enough market and would be unable to penetrate well-established industries like those in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Mr Mmusi said that unless the goods produced were much cheaper than those imported, it would be impossible to compete with these foreign industries.

He however added that the Government was establishing industries in the country, in an attempt to overcome the dependence on imported goods.

On crop production, Mr Mmusi said there had been no crop in South Africa this year, despite the fact that there are large dams on the Vaal, the Orange and the Tugela rivers.

The Vice President was responding to a statement made by the opposition parties which claimed that if Botswana had sufficient dams, there would have been a harvest.

He stressed that because the Gaborone dam site had proved as the best site for a dam in the area, the best possible solution in the crisis we are facing would be to raise the dam wall. "And that is what we are doing," he added.

The Vice President also warned Botswana and the civil service to be aware of foreign businessmen who were interested in "rocking our planning boats" for their own selfish gains.

"Foreigners were neither interested in the country or the people, but were just bent on

using civil servants to get into the country and make money," he warned.

Commenting on tax legislation, Mr Mmusi said: "When a Minister of Finance decides to reduce or increase tax, he means well and it must be accepted."

He disclosed that the tax reductions would cost the country three and a half million Pula this year.

Responding to numerous complaints about the printing of new money, Mr Mmusi said that many people believe "that we throw the old money away yet when the stocks in the Bank of Botswana are reduced, more money is ordered and when the money is printed, it will have the portrait of the reigning President."

He said many people also believe that a Pula is paid for every Pula printed and yet since 1976, P270 million had been printed, and the cost of printing was P1.3 million.

On SADCC, Mr Mmusi said that Botswana questioned the fact that they had not yet benefitted from it but that the Nata-Kazungula road as one benefit of SADCC, and also noted that the Ministry of Agriculture was to benefit from P14 million which had been made available to SADCC countries for the purchase of vaccines from our Vaccine Institute.

Responding further to numerous comments on the 10% salary increase, the Vice President emphasised the fact that the increase is meant to alleviate the effects of inflation, which were felt by all people alike.

On the importation of expatriate manpower, Mr Mmusi noted that the large increase in Form One intake had also created a need for hundreds of teachers, and because Botswana could not meet the demand, it was essential to import teachers.

He reminded Parliament that Botswana was developing industrially and commercially "at such a fast rate that it faced difficulties keeping up with this growth in the production of trained and skilled manpower."

The Vice President told the House that all the houses in New Naledi would be demolished in the New Naledi Renewal Scheme, and promised that Peleng in Lobatse had also been considered **BOPA**

MINISTER SAYS 'BREAD BASKET' TO PRODUCE ONLY FODDER

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 27 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Kiegaisamang Tau]

[Text]

GABORONE, February 27: Barolong farms, the area that is often described as the potential 'bread-basket' of Botswana, will this year produce nothing better than cattle fodder, due to the current drought.

This is what the Minister of Agriculture, Mr W.R. Meswele heard and saw when he toured the farming area.

The Minister, in the company of the Zambian High Commissioner to Botswana Mr D.J. Kalala and his second Secretary, Mr N.N.K. Kayaba respectively, visited farms belonging to Messrs Morule Komane, Kabelo Setuke, James Kgasa and others. They saw shrivelled crops and advised the struggling farmers to pray for rain, make use of their stover or cattle fodder and to cooperate with the government and other farmers in order to alleviate the drought problem.

In almost all the farms, in which thousands of hectares of land had been ploughed in vain, the cutting of stover has already started after the farmers lost hope of harvesting their maize and sorghum crops.

According to the farmers, they were not even hoping to recover the costs of ploughing.

The Barolong Farmers Association decided to take advantage of the delegation's tour to submit their problems and appeals to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Association's Chairman, Mr Setuke appealed to the government to allow them to graze cattle in state owned ranches, because he said their grazing areas had been denuded of grass.

He also criticised the conditions provided by the government for people who grazed their cattle in government ranches, calling it a "very meagre" assistance.

Among the things he queried was the prices they were required to pay in order to graze their cattle in the ranches.

Minister Meswele reminded the farmers that Botswana was one of the 24 drought-stricken African countries and that the drought was continuing in its third year.

He therefore advised the farmers to sell some of their cattle and to rear only numbers they can afford to rear in these difficult times.

He assured them that the government was most concerned about the drought, but by "putting our heads together" there was hope that the experience gained over the past two years could provide some ideas.

Mr Meswele further advised Barolong to cut their stover and use for future fodder for their livestock. He stressed that consultation and increased cooperation among farmers and his Ministry was needed in periods such as the present one.

He explained that the

government decided to undertake the cutting of stover because it wanted to ensure better coordination of its sale and use. And this, he said, would benefit most farmers in this country; those who produce it and those who want to buy it. But the government did not intend to make any profit, he added.

Mr Meswele said the newly-formed Inter-ministerial Committee is to meet in the near future to suggest new techniques of tackling the severe drought.

He also advised the farmers that if they did not find their area suitable for their methods of farming, they were free to apply as individuals for any land they would like to farm in.

At Mmalore, in the Ngwaketse area, farmers appealed to the Minister through their spokesman Mr Rabana Baitsi, for a reduction in price of gasoline and fertilisers until the drought eases.

Farmers here also wanted the interest on loans acquired from the National Development Bank (NDB) to be suspended until the drought problem is overcome.

Minister Meswele promised the people that the government would continue to struggle to help people.

The farmers said they were now confident that after viewing the dying crops, the minister was in a better position to help them.

MASIRE APPEALS TO SADCC, INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR FOOD AID

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 29 Feb 84 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE, FEBRUARY 29: An appeal to donor partners of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, and the International Community to help provide foodstuffs to the drought-stricken people of Botswana has been made by the President, Dr Q.K.J. Masire.

In a nation-wide broadcast on Radio Botswana, President Masire said: "We will continue to depend as a food deficit country on the goodwill of the International Community for the supply of foodstuffs to the starving people."

"In common with most of our neighbours and partners in the SADCC, we once more appeal to our donor partners to afford us the assistance we require."

The Republic of Botswana has been declared a drought-stricken country for a third year running.

Dr Masire described the situation as "extremely grave", adding that his Government will expand on the drought relief programme "to keep in line with the increasingly perilous situations."

Supplementary rations will continue to be provided to school children and other vulnerable groups like expectant and nursing mothers; children of up to five years of age; children of school-going age not attending school and Tuberculosis patients, he explained.

Said the President: "Those registered as destitutes by councils or considered by the community development staff as rendered temporary destitutes by the drought will continue to be assisted as well as the Remote Area Dwellers whose means of livelihood are the most seriously affected under such conditions.

"We will continue to improve the effectiveness of the delivery system for food including the expansion of storage facilities. The limited availability of food in the country for relief purposes

will go strictly to those who qualify for such help," added Dr Masire.

The President said major efforts will be made to intensify the feeding of malnourished children at clinics and health posts while the monitoring of nutritional status will also continue.

He announced the expansion of Labour Based Relief Projects; the handstumping of sorghum for school feeding programmes as well as the continuation of Agricultural Relief Programme.

the Interministerial Drought Committee."

Earlier, the President released statistics that reflected the current crisis.

"A detailed assessment of conditions was carried out recently by Government, and it is clear that we are faced with the worst year in terms of rainfall and crop production that we have known in recent times," he said.

Rains were at least 25 per cent below the average in most parts of the country and particularly in the Eastern parts where most crop production and cattle raising is carried out, he said.

"In some places, the rainfall was up to 60 per cent below normal and January was an exceptionally dry month as early crops withered and died," he said.

"As a result, less than 10 000 tonnes of food production are expected from the areas ploughed, compared to 14 500 tonnes last year. Yet the annual food requirements range between 180 and 185 thousand tonnes," he added.

There were fears now of the expected continuation of the trend of slowly rising rates of malnutrition among children under five years.

There was also concern that severe malnutrition may begin to be encountered, and some 2 000 children have already been found to be suffering from this, he said.

While cattle were currently maintaining weight in most regions, he added, the picture was bound to deteriorate as winter approaches.

There was also concern over village boreholes which were now in the process of drying up as winter approaches, the President added.

speedier selling of livestock and the purchase of cattle in poor conditions to supplement the school feeding programme, said Dr Masire

In addition, priority will be given to the construction of water systems for villages and the Department of Water Affairs will continue to be strengthened in its capacity to drill and equip new boreholes.

Council water units will be assisted to deal with breakdowns and to provide water by bowzers to stranded communities.

The President reminded the nation that all these efforts will depend on our being able to obtain resources.

The President explained that the Government's financial resources would be stretched to the limit by the current crisis, and that the contributions that Botswana had received in the past in the form of finance, equipment, key personnel and commodities would prove even more crucial.

He disclosed that detailed project requests specifying exact needs were being prepared by the Government "and these will shortly be available for consideration by donors through

The measures include the distribution of free seeds, livestock vaccines and subsidised distribution of stock-feed and assistance with ploughing costs.

CSO: 3400/753

BRIEFS

SURPLUS LIQUIDITY--Botswana has a problem unique among African countries--too much money. A recent report in the Africa Economic Digest said that at the end of last year its foreign reserves of about \$380 million were equivalent to six months' imports--said to be the highest in its history. Banks in the country now are "awash with surplus liquidity". They are advocating government measures which they believe should be designed to utilise the funds to develop rural areas and so help to reduce serious urban unemployment. Botswana's enviable foreign exchange surplus is apparently the result of improved exports (particularly of diamonds) and a depressed domestic economy due to the drought which has resulted in falling imports, slower business activity and projects being deferred. An economist at the University of Botswana, Mr M A Ooman, has said that the country had a shortage of bankable projects and suggested this situation could be remedied through easier credit policies. One step in this direction was the reduction last month of the prime rate from 13 to 11,5%. He also advocated increasing loan facilities to farmers to help pay for agricultural inputs, an expansion of the borehole programme and schemes to generate employment in towns not hit by water shortages, such as Francistown and Selebi-Pikwe. As the construction industry has been badly affected by drought, the AED report said that the government intends to spend some \$17 million in building office blocks in these two towns, and also at Gaborone, for government employees at present in rented accommodation. [Text] [Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 24 Feb 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/741

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OF VARIOUS REGIONS VISITED

Chairman Inspects Kaffa Region

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Jimma (ENA)--Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, yesterday inspected various development institutions in Kaffa region.

On arrival at Jimma Airport, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was welcomed by Comrade Kassahun Tafesse, PMAC Standing Committee member, Chief Administrator of Kaffa region and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Begashaw Atalay, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Kaffa region and representatives of the regional government and mass organisations.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu first inspected the Gojeb Agricultural Development which is being undertaken on 1,200 hectares of land in Kaffa province.

Comrade Rezene Asgedom, Head of the Agricultural development Unit, briefed Comrade Chairman Mengistu on the agricultural development which, he pointed out, specialises in the production of spices that are in high demand in market. Over 600 workers are engaged in the agricultural development unit, Comrade Rezene said.

During the inspection tour, Comrade Chairman Mengistu gave directives noting that ways have been charted out to further develop the agricultural development unit.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu then visited the health centre in Jimma town.

On arrival at the premises of the centre, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was warmly welcomed by head of the centre, health experts, workers and teachers.

In a statement on the occasion Comrade Chairman Mengistu stated that the aim of the health centre is to strengthen health organizations of the area, prepare higher and follow-up education, undertake study and research and provide course as well as agitate the masses towards health care.

Comrade Haile Fanta, Head of the Centre's Administration Department, described the facilities of the centre which has both Cuban and Ethiopian teaching staff.

Students in the centre will rise to 2,000 and teachers and workers would number to about 600, by 1981 E.C., said Comrade Haile.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu gave directives for the speedy completion of houses and other facilities within the centre.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu further toured the regional military commissariat in Jimma town and was briefed on the occasion by Comrade Major Dejene Wondemagegnehu, COPWE Central Committee member and the regional military commissar, on the accomplishments of the commissariat.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu also inspected the regional development campaign branch office and a stadium which is now under construction.

Present during the inspection tour were Comrade Fisseha Desta, PMAC Assistant Secretary General and COPWE Executive Committee member, ministers and other comrades. (ENA)

High-level Team Visits Kaffa

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 17 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Jimma (ENA)--Comrade Berhanu Bayih, Standing Committee member of the PMAC, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and Executive Committee member of COPWE at the head of a high-level team touring Kaffa region was briefed here yesterday on the livelihood of the inhabitants of the region and development activities undertaken in the same.

The high-level team was briefed during its visit to the area office of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the regional military commissariat office and the health science institute which is under construction.

On arrival in Jimma yesterday, Comrade Berhanu Bayih along with Comrade Yehualashet Girma, Minister of Coffee and Tea Development and COPWE Central Committee member and other members of the high level team were welcomed by Comrade Kassahun Taffesse, member of the Standing Committee of the PMAC, Chief Administrator of Kaffa region and COPWE Central Committee member together with Comrade Major Dejene Wondemagegnehu, Military Commissar of Kaffa region and COPWE Central Committee member, members of the COPWE of Kaffa region and other government officials.

Chairman Tours Wollega, Shoa Regions

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 7 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, returned to the

capital Sunday afternoon at the end a two-day working tour of various development projects in Wollega and Shoa regions.

Among the projects toured by the Comrade Chairman were the Wama Agricultural Development Project in Wollega, the Ambo Hospital, the grain silo and the Mugar Cement Factory Project all in Shoa region.

On arrival at the Wama Agricultural Development Project in Nekempte province of Wollega region Saturday afternoon, Comrade Chairman Mengistu was welcomed by Comrade Nigussie Fanta, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Wollega region and heads of the various sectors of the agricultural project and workers.

During the visit Comrade Chairman Mengistu gave work directives after touring the 2,000 hectare farm of the Wama Agricultural Development Project which grows various crops including maize, pepper and doura. Comrade Chairman Mengistu was briefed on the development efforts being advanced in the area.

The Revolutionary Leader later visited the modern grain silo with a capacity of 50,000 quintals constructed in Jaji kabele of Chellia district Jibate-Mecha province, Shoa region.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu proceeded to Ambo where he inspected the hospital offering services to inhabitants of the province and gave directives that the hospital be provided requisite assistance from the revolutionary Government in addition to the contributions it receives from the local community.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu later toured the project site of the Mughher Cement Factory which is to start operation next July. Explanatory briefings were made by Comrade Kassa Gebre, Minister of Construction and COPWE Central Committee member, and other comrades responsible for the various phases of project implementation.

Eighty per cent of the work is already completed. Deployed in the construction project have been Ethiopian, GDR and Cuban experts since work began in October 1982 under the directive of Comrade Chairman Mengistu. The factory where 4,500 workers are presently deployed will produce 300,000 tons of cement when fully operational.

The 210 million birr Mughher project will, when completed, produce twice as much as the combined total of the three already existing factories in the country.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu concluded his tour of the project site by underlining the economic significance of the factory and giving words of encouragement to project heads and workers.

Present during the tour were Comrade Fisseha Desta, Assistant Secretary-General of the PMAC and COPWE Executive Committee member, ministers,

COPWE Central Committee members and other high ranking government officials. (ENA)

Chairman Visits Gojjam Region

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, gave directives during a working visit over the weekend to Gojjam region.

Comrade Chairman visited the Birr River Basin Agricultural Development scheme where he gave the necessary directives so that the development scheme would make significant contribution to the agricultural sector of the economy.

The Birr River Basin state farm, which is located in Kola Dega Damot province of Gojjam region and employs 2,000 workers, was set up seven years ago.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu also inspected the activities of the Ayehu Agricultural Development Unit in Agew Medir province which produces various kinds of crops.

In Bahr Dar town Comrade Chairman Mengistu inspected an edible oil mill presently under construction and other development institutions.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu was seen off on departure from Bahr Dar Airport by Comrade Zeleke Beyene, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Gojjam region, and other officials.

Present during the working tour were Comrade Fisseha Desta, PMAC Assistant Secretary-General and COPWE Executive Committee member, Comrade Kassa Gebre, Minister of Construction and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Yossef Muleta, Minister of State Farms Development, and other senior government officials. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/719

CRUCIAL ROLE OF CADRES IN REVOLUTIONARY SUCCESS STRESSED

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 9 Feb 84 p 2

[Editorial: "A Potent Weapon"]

[Text] The Yekatit '66 Political School in Addis Ababa has made a significant contribution in the training of cadres who in turn disseminate the principles of Marxism-Leninism among the masses. This and other similar institutions can take justifiable pride in producing some excellent cadres who are streamlining the struggle of the broad masses to build a socialist society. The graduation ceremony at the Yekatit '66 Political School last Tuesday was an occasion for all progressives to rejoice at the fact that more cadres have been turned out to advance the cause of the revolution and safeguard the popular gains.

As Comrade Legesse Asfar, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member, correctly stated at the graduation ceremony, revolutionaries are not only expected to be vigilant to counter the attacks from the enemies but should also be on the vanguard of the struggle to foil the enemies' misleading propaganda campaigns and to achieve better work efficiency in all fields of endeavour. He emphasized the crucial role cadres play in the attainment of fruitful results in all spheres of activities and in co-ordinating and guiding the broad masses for the realization of a new society.

In order to powerfully push ahead with the revolution and national construction it is important to mould the human being through politicisation. Training people to be more dynamic is a task which the Revolutionary Government and COPWE have undertaken in all earnest. The higher the level of consciousness of the masses who take part in the revolutionary movement the greater their force and the more decisive their role in the revolutionary struggle. It is the progressives representing the interests of the masses who should infuse the latter with revolutionary consciousness and enlighten them with progressive ideas and arouse them to vigorous revolutionary struggle.

When the revolutionary consciousness of the masses is enhanced through the energetic politicisation by cadres on the ideological front they will fight more tenaciously to frustrate the plots of imperialism and reaction. This

is proven by history. It is the masses who make history and carry it forward. Only when the people are armed with revolutionary consciousness and devote themselves to incapacitate the ruling circles of the old society can they truly become the main force of the revolution, the powerful motive force of social development and the worthy creator of a new historical era.

The enemies of the Ethiopian Revolution at home and abroad are frantic as the broad masses, particularly the working people, enthusiastically prepare for formation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and celebrations of the Tenth Anniversary of the popular revolution. International imperialism is desperately weaving one plot after another to derail the revolution. The enemies do not comprehend the aspirations of the masses. That their conspiracies will be totally frustrated is a foregone conclusion. Yet, revolutionaries should exercise maximum vigilance to smash the subversion and sabotage by imperialists and the remnants of the overthrown exploiting classes.

Proceeding from the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary ethics, cadres should fulfill their commitment to serve the masses through deeds and exemplary behaviour. In their endeavours to impart the knowledge they have gained to the masses they should be guided by revolutionary discipline. Everything must be subordinated to a spirit of self-sacrifice. They should earn the respect and admiration of the people through their active contribution to organising and politicising the masses.

It was through the vigilance of genuine revolutionaries that many reactionary plans have been bankrupted. The indomitable and heroic struggle of the people, firmly united under the militant banner of COPWE today and the vanguard party tomorrow, will score more and more victories in all spheres. Political consciousness is an important weapon with which new glorious chapters in the revolutionary struggle will be written.

CSO: 3400/719

TV TECHNICIANS RETURN FROM TRAINING IN TOKYO

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 16 Feb 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Eleven technicians of the Ethiopian Television who had followed a short-term training in Tokyo, in line with the priority given by the Revolutionary Government for strengthening and expanding the Ethiopian mass media, returned home Tuesday.

While on training in Tokyo, the technicians were met by the Ethiopian delegation to the recent conference in Jakarta of ministers of information of member states of Non-aligned Movement led by Comrade Feleke Gedle-Ghiorgis, Minister of Information and National Guidance and COPWE Central Committee member, which had paid a working visit to Japan.

Comrade Feleke spoke to the technicians in Tokyo when he saw them while undergoing training noting that it was not possible to learn in a short period all about the modern media technology which is making rapid progress. He advised them to use the time for the training at their disposal to make a grasp of the basic needed for operating the media equipment.

In accordance with the agreement concluded earlier between the Ministry of Information and National Guidance and the Marubeni Company, work on the expansion of the Ethiopian Television to the rural areas is already in progress. As part of this expansion scheme, 300 sets of colour television have been secured free of charge from the Marubeni Company and the Nippon Electric Corporation.

While in Tokyo, Comrade Feleke conveyed the thanks of the Ministry of Information and National Guidance to the two companies for donating the television sets and for the cordial and warm welcome accorded to the Ethiopian delegation.

The donated television sets would help in the expansion scheme of the Ministry of Information and National Guidance, particularly that of the Ethiopian Television Department.

During its working visit to Japan at the invitation of the Marubeni Company, the Ethiopian delegation had lengthy discussions with the executives of Marubeni Company and the Nippon Electric Corporation and also

visited television and other equipment manufacturing organizations and training institutes at Abeko plant and in the town of Fuchu.

During its visit to the Nippon Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), the delegation inspected various studios and programme production units which were of useful experience for the expansion scheme of the Ethiopian Television Department.

Of the 11 technicians trained at the Marubeni Co.'s training institute, two are studio technicians and the rest are trained in television broadcasting. All of them had previous work experiences with the Ethiopian Television and they said that their newly acquired skills would help them in training and guiding other technicians here at home in the expansion scheme of the Ethiopian Television Department.

Present during the Ethiopian delegation's working visit to Japan and Comrade Feleke's discussions with the executives of the Marubeni Company and the Nippon Electric Corporation was Comrade Ambassador Afework Atlabachew of Socialist Ethiopia to Japan. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/719

ROLE OF SERVICE COOPERATIVES IN AGRICULTURE

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 Feb 84 pp 2, 5

[Article by Dr Jozsef Obzsut]

[Text] The role of the service co-operatives is significant also in the Ethiopian agriculture. Their network embraces the whole country, only a few remote areas are not yet involved into the network of the service co-operatives. Service co-operatives began to sprout after the revolution. Service co-operative members in different fields and workshops meet the ever increasing demands of the population all over the country. The goods produced by the service co-operatives are important factors in the home supply.

In general in the service co-operatives, industrial processing, servicing and mainly the organized supply of goods and marketing of products have assumed larger proportions. The peasants' association of Ada Woreda are covered by 19 service co-operatives of which only one is registered, while in Shoa Region 244 service co-operatives are registered. [as published] The total membership consists of 14,642 heads of families. It is typical in connection with, the number of members that the man-power resources are further increasing, so the surplus in production comes first of all from the increase in members. Here the percentage of the women members is only six, in number 936, while the number of male members is 13,706. There are 771 members in an average service co-operative.

The fruitful relations between the service co-operatives and small-scale production may have a decisive influence on the whole agricultural production. The starting-point can be an intensive small-scale production which is primarily a labour utilizing activity. In this Woreda, on average 4.8 peasants' associations are covered by one service co-operative, while in Shoa Region this figure is almost six. Only five percent of the service co-operatives are registered in Ada, while in Shoa Region 27. In the Woreda in question 80 percent of the peasants' association members are simultaneously members of the service co-operatives as well.

The economic role of the service co-operatives comes to light when taking into consideration their services. The output of the service co-operatives develops, according to the plans in accordance with the objectives. The

service co-operatives of this Woreda employ 38 persons mainly on part time basis. They have seven stores altogether, their accumulated capital is almost 384 thousand Birr. Within the modest increase of the fixed assets the service co-operatives are very keen on establishing new activities. All the buildings are new and were built by the co-operatives.

Consumer Goods

These service co-operatives sold mainly consumer goods and commodities valued at 383 thousand Birr last year. A high percentage of the activities of the service co-operatives consists of retail trade. The level of population services has a rising trend accelerating particularly in the coming years. The efficient operation and successful activity of the service co-operatives cannot be conceived without the active assistance, organizing and co-ordinating function of the peasants' associations and producers' co-operatives and state marketing enterprises.

The co-operatives sold grains to the relevant purchase organization in a value of 1,082 thousand Birr. Per a service co-operative member they have 26 Birr of accumulated capital. They sold commodities in a value of 26 Birr of each member and grains 74 Birr per member. The economic position of that group of co-operatives which are not operating in the coffee producing areas is also promising, but for the time being they are not yet able to show such excellent examples as the service co-operatives of the coffee growing areas.

The organization of service co-operatives of small strength started by commercial and small-scale industrial activities is one of the noteworthy new features of the development of the Ethiopian co-operative movement. To make the production activities safer the co-operatives will step up the efficiency of the services. A lot is to be owed to service co-operatives. The network of newly built shops, stores, servicing and catering units covers almost the whole country. The service co-operatives ought to provide the producers with the necessary financial conditions for production, and purchase the necessary equipment and supplies for production. The network of co-operative shops is being extended and modernized.

Service co-operatives develop dynamically, they basically perform their social and economic roles. They are of great importance in the different branches of production. Their sales of various products of great national economic value are considerably increasing. A mass emigration of the population from agriculture is socially unacceptable. A better solution consists of finding local occupations and economic existence for the greater part of the population living there.

An advantage of the commercial activities of the service co-operatives is, however, that they adjust to the demands of the market faster and more flexibly than any other organization. The peasants' associations, through service co-operatives, may have multifarious tasks in rural development. These tasks can be in several areas at the national level, thus for example, in the integration of small farms, in jointly operating the foodstuff

processing capacities (mills) in organizing the purchase of goods and storing them and in up-dating the management organization. The service co-operatives help members eager to farm on a co-operative basis in establishing producers' co-operatives.

Household Appliances

The development of the peasants' association movement is certainly an immense step forward from the point of view of directing the present traditional sector towards a modern trend of social and economic advancement. In Ada Woreda an average service co-operative accumulated more than 20 thousand birr of capital, while at national level this figure is almost 37 thousand birr. In most cases, until now, the members did not share the surplus, they just accumulated them to expand their activities.

Also in commodity sales Ada is behind the national level and especially the Shoa regional level of sales, it is just a little more than 20 thousand birr in an average service co-operative. Of course, this lower level is determined by the vicinity of the big cities. In some areas of this country the service co-operatives have obtained good results in the supplying of clothes, potteries, textile and leather products, etc, meeting more readily the household and dressing demands of the inhabitants and tourists too. Production and productivity in the field of improved farm implements and household appliances are favourably influenced by the establishment of service co-operatives and the better utilization of labour force.

In selling grains the average service co-operative of Ada Woreda is far ahead that of the national and the Shoa regional level. Last year one service co-operative, in this Woreda, sold grain in the value of 57 thousand birr. The service co-operatives have wide possibilities of combining and co-ordinating large and small-scale production according to the local conditions. This development in recent years proved to be a part of the whole agricultural modernization movement.

From the multifarious picture of the service co-operatives this paper is, however, concerned with only three of them: Denkaka, Dre and Kajama service co-operatives. Four peasants' associations are covered by Denkaka service co-operative, it has 982 members, one shop and one store. This co-operative is on the way to be registered, 16 thousand birr have been accumulated. The secretary and the accountants have been trained in simple accountancy. Traditional irrigation is not practised here, although there is a small river which would need a small dam and a pump.

From the view of the national economy, the importance of direct marketing, industrial output and services provided by the large-scale farms and co-operatives is great. The local, economic impact of these activities is all the greater. Service co-operatives should preserve their adaptability, their readiness to initiate, to be spontaneously active and undertake reasonable economic risks. The service co-operatives can establish village marketing centres for processing crop husbandry and livestock products. Peasants' associations have started on the way which leads to the uniting of peasants' productive forces.

Multifarious Activities

Eleven peasants' associations are covered by Dre Service Co-operative. Eight peasants' associations are involved in the Training and Visit Extension Pilot Project out of the 11 service co-operatives. The co-operative has a good office building and stores for various purposes. Kajama Service Co-operative covers seven peasants' associations. These peasants' associations have 1,524 members, while Kajama Service Co-operative has 1,503 members. Of the seven peasants' associations two are covered by the Training and Visit Programme. Two members of the executive committee of this service co-operative are contact farmers in the Training and Visit System. The co-operative plans to install a mill in its centre and to build eight kms of feeder road.

For millions of peasants this form of co-operatives is a school in agricultural co-operative farming. Here they learn and come to like the idea of democratic co-operatives which help them to join the co-operative movement. These principles are indispensable sources of achievements of the Ethiopian co-operatives and at the same time, firm conditions of the co-operatives' future strengthening and development, for they are an essential and highly valued sector of national economy.

By the establishment of service co-operatives profound preconditions have been created in order to provide multifarious services to the peasants in every corner of this country. Service co-operatives were established to carry out efficient activities other than the members' basic activity, that is, agriculture. In general they are less capital intensive than state enterprises and can more speedily adapt themselves to the changing market demands. Nothing should be done to retard the gradual and appropriate mechanization of service and producers' co-operatives and modernization of rural economy.

In addition to serving the immediate economic interests of their members, the co-operatives undertake an important part in meeting the social and cultural requirements of their members. When it is about the training of co-operative members, in most cases the trainees are selected from among the members of co-operatives by the service co-operatives themselves, sometimes the co-operatives cover the costs. The variety of complementary and ancillary activities pursued at present by the service co-operatives should be considered as a successful solution of ensuring gainful occupation and an acceptable standard of living for the population. In the near future newer groups of service co-operatives will achieve the higher stage of development, the spreading of up-to-date means of production, further concentrated commerce and production, specialization, and the growth of economic collaboration.

CSO: 3400/719

BULGARIAN WOMEN'S DELEGATION VISITS COUNTRY

Briefed on REWA

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 Feb 84 pp 1, 5

[Excerpt] The Bulgarian delegation led by Comrade Elena Laga Dinova, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and the State Council of the peoples' Republic of Bulgaria and Chairperson of the Committee of the Movement of the Bulgarian Women, was yesterday briefed on the activities of the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association.

The briefing was given at REWA headquarters by Comrade Asegedech Bizuneh, Chairperson of REWA, in the presence of Comrade Georgi Petrov Kassov, Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to Socialist Ethiopia and Executive Committee members of REWA.

During the briefing Comrade Asegedech disclosed that there are at present 5,200,000 REWA members in the country who play a big role in the economic construction of the country. She said that REWA has signed protocol agreements with five socialist countries which have provided REWA members with short and long-term scholarship opportunities. She added that REWA is now strengthening its solidarity with counterparts in other socialist countries.

The REWA Chairperson pointed out that other than the membership contribution, REWA is making efforts to establish small-scale income generating projects in order to financially and materially strengthen the association, and added that 47 junior training institutions have been established where members are trained in different vocations. She also told members of the delegation the cooperation REWA has with the Ministeries of Agriculture and Health in training its members.

She said that efforts are being made to broaden the political consciousness of women, adding that over four million women have been freed from the shackles of illiteracy.

With the efforts made by government agencies and mass organizations after the eruption of the Revolution, the number of kindergartens, only 77 before the Revolution, has now jumped to 573, Comrade Assegedech told the visiting

Bulgarian delegation and added that the members by freely participating in such development activities like road construction and tree seedling plantations have saved over three million birr.

Comrade Elena Laga Dinova arrived here Sunday night on a week-long working visit to Socialist Ethiopia heading a three-member delegation.

She was welcomed by Comrade Tiruwork Wakayo, COPWE Central Committee member and Head of the women's affairs main section in the organizational department of COPWE, Comrade Ambassador Georgi Petrov Kassov of Bulgaria, Comrade Asegedech Bezuneh, Chairperson of the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association (REWA), and executive and control committee members of REWA.

In a statement she gave on arrival, Comrade Laga Dinova noted the continuous strengthening of the relations, mutual cooperation and solidarity between Socialist Ethiopia and the People's Republic of Bulgaria which she said to be the outcome of the agreement earlier reached by the leaders of the two countries.

Encouraged by the conducive atmosphere which has enhanced relations between the Committee of the Movement of the Bulgarian Women and REWA, Comrade Laga Dinova stated, relations between the two organizations are gaining depth. She said that the struggle being waged by Revolutionary Ethiopia's women to consolidate the gains of the Revolution is being followed with admiration by the Committee of the Movement of the Bulgarian Women.

Briefed on COPWE

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 5

[Excerpt] The visiting Bulgarian delegation headed by Comrade Elena Laga Dinova, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Chairperson of the Committee of the Movement of the Bulgarian Women, was briefed here yesterday on the activities and organizational setup of the Addis Ababa COPWE and its accomplishments in organizing REWA.

Comrade Lemma Gutema, COPWE Central committee member and COPWE representative for Addis Ababa, briefed the delegation outlining the activities of the Addis Ababa COPWE predominated by the dissemination of Marxist-Leninist ideology under the guidelines of the Central Committee of COPWE.

Comrade Lemma said that conducive situations have been created for women to extricate themselves from backward cultural practices.

Comrade Lemma also recalled the active participation of women before the onset of the revolution, in the anti-fascist and anti-aggression struggle and the exemplary role they have played at the warfronts and factory to safeguard the Revolution.

The Addis Ababa REWA which embraces 222,446 member comprises 284 basic associations and 93 women's committees setup in factories, according to Comrade Lemma Gutema. [as published]

Comrade Lemma noted further the devoted role of women in the struggle for the fulfilment of the aims of COPWE, formation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and the building of a strong economy and national defence force.

Comrade Elena Laga Dinova on her part expressed admiration for COPWE's strides and accomplishments to organize the people and said that she has understood that satisfactory foundation has been laid down for the formation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia.

Meanwhile, Comrade Shoarega Kebede, Chairperson of the Addis Ababa REWA, and Comrade Mulu Wondimu, Chairperson of the Addis Ababa REWA Control Committee, gave briefings to the visiting Bulgarian delegation on their respective areas of activities.

Women's Organization a Priority

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 16 Feb 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] The visiting Bulgarian women's delegation headed by Comrade Elena Laga Dinova, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Chairperson of the Committee of the Movement of the Bulgarian Women, was briefed yesterday on the priority given by COPWE to organize Ethiopian women, the measure taken to strengthen their association and the role played by women in COPWE's activities.

The briefing was given at COPWE Central Committee office by Comrade Tiruwork Wakeyo, COPWE central committee member and Head of women's main section in COPWE's organizational department.

Women's Role Discussed Further

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 18 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Comrade Legesse Asfaw, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member, yesterday held talks with the Bulgarian delegation members headed by Comrade Elena Laga Dinova, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Chairperson of the Committee of the Movement of Bulgarian Women.

Comrade Legesse pointed out that women have played a considerable role in political, economic, social and military affairs during the years of revolutionary process.

He also praised Ethiopian women for their active participation in the registering of youth members for the National Military Service.

Comrade Legesse noted that positive accomplishments to build a strong Marxist-Leninist party, defence force and economy to the Bulgarian delegation members and assured them that there is no doubt that the party will be established by foiling the sinister machinations of imperialism and with the support given by socialist countries in line with proletarian internationalism.

REWA, CMBW Agreement Signed

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 19 Feb 84 pp 1, 5

[Excerpt] A protocol agreement providing for the expansion of fields of cooperation between the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association (REWA) and the Committee of the Movement of Bulgarian Women (CMBW) was signed at a ceremony held at the headquarters of REWA here yesterday.

The agreement was signed by Comrade Asegedech Bizuneh, Chairperson of REWA on behalf of Ethiopia while Comrade Elena Laga Dinova, member of the state council and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and President of the Committee of the Movement of Bulgarian Women (CMBW) signed on behalf of Bulgaria.

The protocol agreement stipulates among other things the exchange of delegation, the training of members of REWA and the joint efforts to be mounted by both associations for the accomplishment of the mission of the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF), which pursues an anti-imperialist policy.

On departure at the Bole International Airport, Comrade Elena Laga Dinova was seen off by Comrade Asegedech Bizuneh, Chairperson of REWA, Comrade Georgi Petrov Kassov, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to Socialist Ethiopia, Central Committee members of REWA and members of the staff of the Bulgarian Embassy. (ENA)

CSO: 3400/719

BRIEFS

MINISTER LEAVES FOR PYONGYANG--A 14-man Ethiopian delegation left here Sunday for Pyongyang for exploratory talks with high ranking officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on collaborations between the two countries in education, scientific and cultural fields. The delegation is headed by Comrade Bililign Mandefro, Minister of Education and COPWE Central Committee member, who said on departure that the visit would enable the delegation to learn from the 30 years experience of the DPRK in socialist construction that are relevant to Ethiopia's effort for construction. Members of the delegation includes Comrade Girma Yilma, Minister of Culture and Sports Affairs and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Fasika Sidelel, COPWE Central Committee member and Head of COPWE economic and social affairs department, Comrade Dr. Taye Gulilat, Commissioner for Higher Education, Comrade Haile-Lul Tebiki, Commissioner for Science and Technology, and Comrade Tsegaw Ayele, Commissioner for physical culture and sports. The delegation was seen off on departure by Comrade Ambassador Hwang Sun Muk of the DPRK to Socialist Ethiopia, and government officials. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 14 Feb 84 p 5]

DELEGATION BACK FROM PYONGYANG--A four-member COPWE delegation returned here yesterday upon completion of a three-week working tour to the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK). The delegation led by Comrade Shimellis Mazengia, COPWE Central Committee member and Head of the Ideological Department of COPWE, has earned a worthwhile experience regarding the ideological tasks of a party during its stay in the DPRK. In a statement made on arrival here, Comrade Shimellis noted with satisfaction that members of his delegation gained useful experience concerning party formation from the guidelines of the Workers Party of Korea regarding socialist construction. Comrade Shimellis further noted that a fruitful discussion characterized with cordial sentiment and mutual understanding was held with heads of departments of the Workers Party of Korea, and particularly with Comrade Kim Il Sung on relations and co-operation between the political organizations of the two countries. Comrade Shimellis stated that the Workers Party of Korea will extend all the necessary assistance to ensure our struggle for party formation achieve its mission, and noted that he was able to confirm the strength and dependability of the solidarity of the two countries. [as published] Comrade Shimellis was welcomed by Comrade Alemu Abebe, COPWE Central Committee member and Head of the

Nationalities Department of COPWE and staff members of the Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 17 Feb 84 p 1]

SWEDEN'S WELFARE AID--A basic agreement was signed here yesterday between the government of Socialist Ethiopia and the Radda Barnen, the Swedish Save the Children Organization, under which the two sides will cooperate in various projects related to the welfare of children to be undertaken by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. Comrade Berhanu Bayih, PMAC Standing Committee member, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and COPWE Executive Committee member, signed the agreement on behalf of the Ethiopian Government, and Mrs. Karin Soder, member of the Swedish Parliament and president of Radda Barnen, signed on behalf of the Swedish humanitarian organization. Comrade Berhanu thanked on the occasion the Swedish Save the Children Organization for its goodwill and cooperation in the past and for its commitment to provide assistance for various projects related to children's welfare in Ethiopia. Mrs. Soder on her part said her working visit to Ethiopia at the invitation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs was timely and useful and expressed appreciations for the warm welcome she was accorded during her stay in the country. (ENA) [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 16 Feb 84 p 1]

COOPERATIVE ASSUMES LEGAL STATUS--Assela (ENA)--The Lode Beka peasants producers' cooperative organized at Welba level in Dodota district of Chilalo province, Arssi region, has received a certificate of legal status. The certificate sent by the Ministry of Agriculture as well as prizes to 12 meritorious peasants in recognition of their active participation in the work of the cooperative were handed out last week by Comrade Sore Dandana, Head of cooperatives affairs of the Chilalo provincial COPWE office, Comrade Alemayehu Gebre-Giorgis, Head of organizational affairs of the provincial COPWE office and Comrade Debela Dinka, General Manager of Arssi Rural Development Unit. Comrade Sore said on the occasion that in line with the efforts being made to introduce socialist mode of production in the rural areas, out of the 119 peasants producers' cooperatives established in Chilalo province 21 have already received certificates of legal status. He said that the certificate given to Lode Beka peasants producers' cooperative will help accelerate their activities. Comrade Kedir Abdela, representative of the Ministry of Agriculture in Dodota district, and Comrade Wondimu Alemu, Chairman of the Lode Beka cooperative, disclosed that the cooperative has produced 2,309 quintals of grains during the 1982-83 harvest season with the help of 88 pairs of oxen and a tractor jointly purchased with a nearby cooperative. The Lode Beka producers' cooperative has a capital of over 66,700 birr. A bio-gas furnace by Arssi Rural Development Unit for 30 homes belonging to members of the cooperative to help them save firewood, was later inspected by guests who attended the ceremony conferring legal status on the Lode Beka producers' cooperative. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 15 Feb 84 p 5]

RRC AID FROM ITALY--The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission yesterday signed an agreement with the Italian Government for the construction of 10 warehouses at Assab port for a total capacity of about 50,000 metric

tons of food items and emergency equipment. The three million dollar agreement was signed by Comrade Dawit Wolde-Giorgis, Commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and COPWE Central Committee member, and by H. E. Mr. Massimo Curcio, responsible for the emergency sector in the department of co-operation with developing countries in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Italy. The agreement is attached to the technical co-operation agreement signed in 1973 in consideration of the urgent necessity of realising appropriate sheltering infrastructure in order to avoid needless waste of relief food items and emergency equipment and material destined to people affected by man-made and natural disasters. Each warehouse will have a total built-up surface of about 2,100 square metres and a storage capacity of about 500 metric tons. Comrade Dawit thanked the Italian Government for the co-operation. (ENA) [Text]
[Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 11 Feb 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/719

LABOR SECRETARY DISCUSSES TUC ISSUES

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 22 Feb 84 p 5

[Labor Secretary Ato Austin interviewed by M'Bawine Dtintanoa in the "Inside Out" column; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Bearing in mind the overall objectives of the Revolution and what we as a nation aspire for, what is the relationship between your ministry and the labor front, that is the Trades Union Congress of Ghana as a body?

[Answer] I think the ministry has close working relationship with the TUC.

You have to understand first and foremost that the TUC is supposed to be very independent, independent not from the point of view of creating its own empire but one in which its finances, general policies and the methods of electing its leadership and of seeking the welfare of its entire members are its own prerogative; something that it determines by itself.

But we live in a world of very close inter-dependency such that there are things you can't really perform without assistance. That is where the ministry comes in.

The ministry too has got a lot of serious intentions about the entire labour front. Our main aim is to have a very well organised single labour organisation that takes care of all the labour issues in this country. When that happens it is easy for us to resolve problems that arise on the labour front.

Another area is related to the question of jurisdiction in the various unions. We have to be able to define the broad jurisdiction of all these unions to ensure that there is peace in the determination of issues so that any one leader or union which emerges as the one responsible for the particular area is clearly defined. When the labour movement becomes a single solid united body with a clear-cut definition of jurisdiction of the various unions it helps the government also in dealing with the labour front and can then bring about fundamental changes.

Unity

But I believe one of the objectives is to ensure that there is the unity of the grassroots of the unions with the leadership; and the second factor which I think is of interest to us is the quality of leadership that comes from the labour front.

[Question] Talking about the level of participation in management of workers means that there must be some measure of harmony between shop-floor workers and management staff so as to minimise industrial disputes. What attempts has your ministry taken to ensure good industrial relations?

[Answer] We have advanced almost to the end of finishing our industrial relations act which we would have to put before the whole nation for discussion. We are looking at the situation as the major policy of the ministry in reducing industrial tensions, creating the feeling of belonging and also destroying any semblance of dictatorship on the part of any bureaucrat or top manager who thinks that the workplace is his property.

We are also trying to use participation as a means of increasing productivity, so that if the worker knows the consequences of his actions, and the man at the factory knows the amount of produce that comes out in a day and also what the cost of delays is and how they affect the overall production then it would become a little bit easier to raise production. This is because that would relate directly to the benefits that the worker would get.

What we are trying to say is that all supervisory boards (boards of directors of whatever) must have one-third to half of its members being elected employees. The others can be appointed by the shareholders in the case of limited liability companies, for example.

Now it would make law that half of this number ought to be the shareholders' own appointees and the other half persons broadly elected by employees. This would ensure a very full participation at that level.

Then we are also going further to form what is normally termed works councils which have never happened here. This is an aspect of the durbar system that we have here but apart from that there would be a standing committee made up of the elected from all sectors also sitting down to undertake certain specified roles.

[Question] We must realise that WDCs have come to stay with us but you failed to touch on what role you think they should play in this.

[Answer] I think that when we talk about labour there seems to be now a broad division of functions. The WDCs recognise the role of the TUC and they are not supposed to take over the responsibility of the TUC. I think that in the long and final analysis there should be a single labour movement that would emerge between the WDC and the TUC.

Let us say that it is not something that can be decided today. It could be that rather the unions would have to be dissolved, it may also be that the WDCs would have to be dissolved but certainly at a particular time frame we should have a single organisation. One could also not rule out the role that the WDCs are playing in bringing enthusiasm and better or higher consciousness and desire for work at the workplace, and this role must be incorporated into the unions or into a political movement.

If the WDCs in the workplaces lead into the formation of a workers party, I think most of the problems could be resolved. And most importantly we have to define clearly our projected objectives and see the role that the WDCs are supposed to play but this depends on time and the nature of our struggle.

My personal view is that there must exist a political organisation: we must evolve gradually a working class party and then this comes on then we would realize that the WDC as a separate organisation at the workplace side-by-side with the workers party becomes superfluous.

[Question] You must be mindful of the struggle to control African labour movements (particularly since the early sixties when the now defunct All-African Trade Union Federation with headquarters in Accra, was formed) by international organisations and also the tussle as to which international labour movement to join.

This has not been properly resolved yet, so what relationship do you envisage to have with some international labour movements and which particularly, not forgetting how our own national aspirations are to be met?

Affiliations

[Answer] At the moment we have affiliations with various international labour movements. We have a lot of attention on the Organization of Africa Trade Union Unity (OATUU), with headquarters in accra as the labour movement of the OAU. Our main aim is, as we have settled the internal TUC problem, to really move into active international labour work because the working class has got internationalist work and our internationalism would spring from our commitment to the African Revolution and see how we can bring about an inter-relationship with the African front.

We are negotiating with the OATUU (in fact they have suggested) the possibility of hosting a conference of all African labour movements somewhere in May or June this year in Ghana and we hope to use that as a platform for launching a major thrust in the labour front.

I think even though there are wide differences between the kind of labour structures that exist in the francophone countries and those in the anglophone ones, there are still international bonds or similarities in the interest of labour in various countries.

We also have close relationship with the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) which is a very progressive and positive international organization

and which is now building up side by side with the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

But I would say that inspite of all this there is still a leeway where we can still maintain our own national independence. As far as possible we shall not infringe on any of those conventions.

[Question] Is your Ministry doing anything to bring unorganised labour, say farmers and the unemployed, under the TUC? For I feel that your duties do not certainly centre only on organised labour....

[Answer] It is a sad issue that there is no unemployment scheme in this country. I started some negotiations with the ILO and the WFTU to find out what is normally done. I am rather sad that the mobilisation programme has not really taken off as much as possible (there are a lot of problems as to why this is so), but I think this is the effort that this ministry is now trying to put into this whole question of mobilisation.

In fact the whole concept of redeployment is tied very closely with the mobilisation. We cannot just cut labour without having some programme of redeployment and I think that is why the mobilisation programme is very important.

I think we are having close relationship with the mobilisation team.

[Question] What efforts have you made to improve on the conditions of work at workplaces especially in the public sector?

[Answer] This varies from place to place. There are places that depend on the government and others which can develop on their own resources.

Now one is thinking that even by promoting better participation at that level it should be possible to think about the so many things that can be done to develop conditions of work to enable greater productivity to be realised.

As far as possible we can only perform within the national budget. But there is no doubt that to increase productivity you would also have to increase the conditions of work.

[Question] You have mentioned somewhere about the rationalisation of wages. How do you expect this to improve things within the labour sector?

[Answer] I think the differences in wages is one condition for laxitude and lack of interest for work and I believe that we should be able to rationalise wages in such a way that a person is paid for equal work. As long as we are doing the same kind of work we should be able to earn a similar remuneration. The way we approached it is like this that we should be capable of having a minimum salary for particular categories of workers which applies to every case. It should not vary from one to the other. The basic allowances should not vary too but you would realize that we have added some other factors. That is the process of rationalisation.

First to make sure for every worker of a particular category anywhere the basic is the same, entitlements are the same.

Then we look at the specific conditions at the place. As a miner or as an engineer who goes into the mines and for reasons of health conditions and so on we have to define it clearly that working under these conditions you get so much. This would also vary the situation but certainly it would not be like what we have now where things are just irrational.

And then where you are able to increase your production you gain more, so we would tag production to the other allowances.

CSO: 3400/756

TRADE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED WITH EGYPT

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Breda Atta-Quayson]

[Excerpt] THE Governments of Ghana and Egypt have negotiated an eight million U.S. dollar trade agreement.

The Egyptian Ambassador said when the agreement is signed, Ghana would supply Egypt timber worth four million U.S. dollars whilst Egypt would supply Ghana cotton yarn to the tune of four million U.S. dollars.

Mr El Geweley said that his country has set up a fund for Africa under which Egypt is prepared to provide experts for sister African countries in all fields of possible co-operation.

He stated that Egypt has already agreed to provide Ghana with four experts from the Alexandria Maritime Academy to help the Regional Maritime Academy in Accra.

Some people from Ghana will also be sent to the Alexandria Maritime Academy for further training, the Ambassador added.

"We are willing to help with experts and offer scholarship to Ghanaians in any area", he stressed.

Mr El Geweley explained that when the agreement becomes operational, Egypt would not only provide Ghana with cotton but she would also give technical assistance for local cotton production.

CS0: 3400/756

BRIEFS

NUCLEAR REACTOR REFUND--INTERATOM International Atomereia Ktorbau, Gmbh of Bensberg, West Germany, has refunded to Ghana all the DM 500,000 deposited by Ghana for the purchase of a nuclear reactor, which was sold instead to Egypt. A balance of DM 90,000 which the firm wanted to deduct for the repairs it made on the reactor has also been finally refunded. Ghana expressed interest in the reactor, which was lying idle at Frankfurt University in 1979 and deposited DM 500,000 for it. However, it was sold to Egypt which had also expressed interest in it and Ghana therefore demanded a refund of the deposit. Dr Gbordzoe denied that the amount involved was DM 1,000,000 as was reported in the West Africa magazine recently. [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 Feb 84 pp 1, 4]

JAPANESE GRANT--GHANA and Japan yesterday exchanged notes in Accra under which the Government of Japan will extend a grant of 84 million yen (£10.8 million) to Ghana. The grant is to be used for the execution of improvement works on the power transmission system of the Post-Graduate Medical Research Institute of the Medical School of the University of Ghana. The institute, which is dedicated to the memory of Dr Noguchi, a Japanese medical officer who died in Ghana in 1928 while conducting research into yellow fever, is a symbolic centre of Ghana-Japan medical co-operation. It was built in 1979 through a \$9 million grant from the Japanese Government. Dr Asamoah [PNDC Secretary for Foreign Affairs] lamented that work at the institute is presently being disrupted because of frequent fluctuations in power supply. Expressing Ghana's deep appreciation for the continued commitment of Japan to Ghana's socio-economic development, Dr Asamoah promised that the grant will be used to purchase equipment necessary for the improvement of the situation at the institute. Mr Naoki Nakano, Japanese Ambassador to Ghana who signed the notes for Japan, expressed his country's willingness to always assist Ghana in various socio-economic fields. [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 17 Feb 84 pp 1, 4]

FAO FOOD AID--GHANA and Upper Volta are to receive food aid worth about 7.6 million dollars from the UN/FAO World Food Programme. Under the programme, Ghana will receive 13,000 tonnes of wheat while Upper Volta receives 10,000 tonnes of cereals. [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 16 Feb 84 p 8]

USSR NUCLEAR CENTER ASSISTANCE--SOVIET experts are expected in the country by next month to assess the immediate needs of the National Nuclear Research Centre to enable the Soviet Government to help reactivate the centre. [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 15 Feb 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/756

GOVERNMENT POSTPONES NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE INDUCTIONS

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 24 Feb 84 pp 9, 10

[Article: "Waiting Game"]

[Text] THE government's attempts to institute a national service scheme for form six leavers who have been selected to join the university this year seems to be floundering as officials who are supposed to implement the scheme postpone it month after the other. The office of the president first put up advertisements in the press calling on the selected students to report to the National Youth Service headquarters at Ruaraka from February 1. A few weeks after the advertisements appeared giving the code numbers, the names of the students and the dates they were to report, the office of the president booked another ad in *The Kenya Times* and made announcements on the *Voice of Kenya* radio to the effect that the reporting date for the students had been postponed from February 1 to March 1. No explanation was given for the postponement although many students had resigned from wherever they might have been working to report for the national service scheme.

It must have taken the affected students and their relatives by surprise on Wednesday last week (February 15) when once again the office of the president issued yet another press statement postponing the reporting date from March 1 to May 1. This time, however, the office gave a sort of an explanation as to why the service scheme was being postponed. The statement said the reason for the postponement was that the government wanted to bring the facilities intended for the scheme up to standard. It said the registration forms which had been issued to the candidates for completion before admission into the service "have been found irregular and must be

returned to the director of the National Youth Service immediately." New registration forms which conform to the National Youth Service Act are to be devised for the completion by the candidates when new dates for registration will be announced, "in due course."

The service scheme, which was supposed to last eight or nine months (from February to October when the students join the University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University College) will now last only five months. It is reasonable to conclude from the statement issued by the office of the president that the problems that are causing the delay in the inauguration of the programme have something to do with finances. In all, about 2,400 "A" level graduates are involved and the government would have to prepare accommodation and provide food for them for the entire period that the scheme will last. This excludes the purchase of the equipment and other materials that are necessary for the students to accomplish their service in performing duties which *The Kenya Times* said included "soil conservation, afforestation, water development, land survey, road and other building work projects throughout the country. "It is not clear whether the service by the form six leavers will be integrated with that of the CPE and "O" level school leavers who are recruited from all over the country after they volunteer to join the NYS and are interviewed at various district and divisional headquarters. Since all that the office of the president says is that it wants to bring up to the standard the facilities needed for the

scheme, it is safe to assume that proper preparation had not been made before the government called up the students to join the scheme. It would also be safe to conclude that legal aspects of the call-up were not properly examined because the registration forms that were originally issued by the NYS for the students to complete for registration are now being described as "irregular" and the candidates are being asked to return them.

The office of the president did not disclose what was wrong with the original forms, except to say that the new ones would conform to the NYS Act. According to section 7(2)(a) of the act, members of the service (the NYS servicemen and women) must be citizens of Kenya aged between 16 and 30 years. They may be enlisted or re-enlisted by the director of the NYS or by a gazetted officer authorised by him from persons who have voluntarily offered themselves for enlistment or re-enlistment. The act also stipulates that the service should be of a one year duration or such other period as the minister responsible for the NYS may from time to time prescribe through a notice in the *Kenya Gazette*. Since the national service scheme for "A" level graduates could not be described as "voluntary" and since it can hardly last one year because the students must report to the university at the beginning of the new academic year, the government will therefore have to find ways and means of wiggling out of those legal tangles before the candidates finally report for enlistment for the service in May.

Another problem that may face the officials implementing the service scheme is what to do with those candidates who have been invited to join the university but are physically incapable of joining the service. Such students include women who have got pregnant since they left school in

December 1982 and may or may not have given birth. There are also numerous physically handicapped students - blind students from the Thika School for the Blind - and others who might have various disabilities but are able to pass "A" levels to be admitted to join the university but are incapable of performing the rigorous duties that are related to the National Youth Service programme.

While the office of the president was dithering with the 1982 "A" level graduates' national service scheme, the ministry of education, science and technology last week released the results of the 1983 Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education (KACE) examination, whose candidates will be the next batch of students required to join the national service scheme before they are admitted into the university. The minister, Professor Jonathan Ng'eno, said 16,436 candidates had sat for the KACE last year. Of those, 2,767 got three "A" level principals, representing 16.83 per cent of the total number of candidates while 3,004 had two principals representing 18.28 per cent of the candidates and 3,658 candidates got one principal representing 22.26 per cent of all the candidates. As usual, Alliance High School led the top ten schools, followed by Strathmore College, Mangu, St. Patrick's Iken, Ngandu Girls, Thika School for the Blind, Lenana, Kenya High, Alliance Girls and Kianda. Just as were the results of the "O" levels, the best ten schools are concentrated around Nairobi and Central Province except for St. Patrick's Iken in the Rift Valley. But admission for form five is done on a national basis and it is safe to assume that the good performance was by students from all over the country. Those who will be selected to join the university in October next year are supposed to serve in the students national service scheme before entry into the university. ■

UGANDAN REFUGEES FEAR ABDUCTIONS BY THEIR POLICE

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 3 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] UGANDAN refugees in Nairobi are living in fear following actual and attempted kidnapping and abduction of several of their colleagues recently. Three Ugandan refugees who have managed to foil attempted kidnapping narrated their sad tales to *The Weekly Review* this week. The refugees claim they are victims of Ugandan government secret agents who lurk in different corners of the country, particularly in Nairobi, trying to arrest them and repatriate them to Uganda so that they could be detained at the maximum security prison at Makindye or to be killed. The refugees are worried that either the Kenyan government security network is turning a blind eye to their plight or worse, Kenyan police are party to the kidnaps and abductions.

The most vivid tale is that of a former Ugandan air force pilot (whose name will be withheld for his own security because he is still in Kenya), who narrowly escaped being kidnapped at gunpoint in a Nairobi street on January 18 while he was in the company of three other refugees. The three, Mr. Enos Kitembo, former army officer and instructor at the School of Infantry during the reign of dictator Idi Amin; Mr. Edward Muzingu, a former soldier, and Mr. Hudson Mukasa, were all registered refugees by the Nairobi bureau of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Since their abduction on the fateful day of January 18, the three have not been traced by their families who live in Nairobi. The ex-pilot said he and his companions were going home and were stopped by people who identified themselves as Kenyan special branch

policemen in a Peugeot 504. The "policemen" claimed they wanted to question the pilot and his colleagues in connection with a bank robbery in Nyeri. He would have accompanied the "special branch" men had he not noticed that with them was a man he recognised as a Ugandan from the Uganda secret police. The pilot pretended that he was going to enter the Peugeot 504 but managed to fight his way into escape leaving his three friends with the "special branch" men.

Another refugee, (whose name will also be withheld for his own security) was arrested on January 26 from his Dandora home at 1.00 a.m. in the morning. He says his captors were dressed in Kenyan police uniform and drove him from Nairobi in a Land Rover at night through Limuru to a place he later knew to be Maji Mazuri. The refugee, who realised that he was being abducted with the intention of being repatriated to Uganda, had a chance to escape when his captors got out of the vehicle to help themselves. He ran into the bush in the darkness and managed to walk back up to Limuru where a "good Samaritan" gave him bus fare to Nairobi. Other refugees who claim to have been arrested and interrogated by authorities include a former bodyguard of the former Ugandan President Godfrey Binaisa. The man has lived as a refugee in Nairobi since 1981. He told *The Weekly Review* that people claiming to be Kenya special branch personnel picked him up on January 24 and interrogated him on whether he had been trained in Libya or Cuba. They searched his house and then left. He has not gone back to

the house for fear of being arrested or kidnapped.

In November last year, several Kenyan refugees in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, including the former Nakuru North MP, Mr. Dickson Kihika Kimani, were swapped for Tanzanian refugees who were living in Kenya. At least six Kenyans and four Tanzanians were reported to have been exchanged in the exercise. With the normalisation of relations between the three East African states and the opening of the Kenya-Tanzania border, East African states have made it clear that "disgruntled elements" would not find refuge in any of the countries. Kenya has about 6,300 refugees, most of whom (about 3,000) are from Uganda. There are 1,600 Ethiopian refugees and about 1,500 refugees from Rwanda in Kenya. Since the exchange of the refugees between Kenya and Tanzania in November, many Kenyans seem to feel that Ugandan refugees in Kenya should be repatriated. But the security situation in Uganda, as recent reports of killings suggest, clearly cries out against forceful repatriation of Ugandan refugees.

According to the United Nations convention and protocol relating to refugees, no country should expel or return a refugee in any manner to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened because

of his religion, race, nationality or political opinion. The convention stipulates that UN member states who are signatories should not expel a refugee lawfully from their territories save on the grounds of national security or public order. The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) convention on refugees states that "the granting of asylum to a refugee is a peaceful and humanitarian act and shall not be regarded as an unfriendly act by member states" and that "no person shall be subjected by a member state to measures such as rejection at the frontier, return or expulsion, which would compel him to return to or to remain in a territory where his life, physical integrity or liberty would be threatened."

The permanent secretary in the office of the president, Mr. J.S. Mathenge, who is in charge of internal security, told *The Weekly Review* that he was hearing for the first time that Ugandan refugees were being harassed in an attempt to kidnap them. He advised affected refugees to report to the nearest police station if they had any problems. Mathenge also said he was willing to conduct an investigation to find out whether Kenyan police were involved, but added that there had been several incidents of criminals posing as policemen. ■

CSO: 3400/728

DETAILS ON INVESTMENT ADVISORY, PROMOTIONAL CENTER GIVEN

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 17 Feb 84 p 23

[Text]

THE Investment Advisory and Promotion Centre was established following President Moi's statement on the state of the economy on November 8, 1982 when the members of the board and the chief executive Mr. Maurice P. Omwony, were appointed. The board was composed of five ex-officio members, including permanent secretaries in the ministries of finance and planning, commerce and industry, and the governor of Central Bank of Kenya plus eight members from the private sector including the chairmen of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industries and of Kenya Association of Manufacturers.

The president established the Centre, among other committees, to facilitate investment by coordinating the government policies and the private sector's effort in starting new investment ventures. Hitherto prospective investors both local and foreign had experienced inordinate delays in obtaining necessary government approvals like, foreign exchange, approved enterprise status and various licences. These obstacles in addition to sluggish economic trends in the world gave rise to a decelerating rate of investment. This trend had to be reversed with positive policies aimed at increasing the role of the private sector in the national economy.

The recently launched development plan 1984-1988 outlines the future policies to be pursued by the government. The policies put more emphasis on promotion of export-oriented, resource based and labour

intensive industries. Promotion and development of producer's goods industries will also be encouraged where the replacement of imported inputs is possible and economically viable. The centre will put more emphasis in the promotion of agro-based investments. This is because Kenya has a great comparative advantage in growing and processing certain agricultural products which have a ready market in our major overseas markets. The bulk of the projects that have been approved by the government through the centre have proved this point. Furthermore, the agro-potential of the country has not been fully exploited to contribute towards foreign exchange earnings which is required for the development of other sectors of the economy. Investments in the agricultural sector have a high rural-development potential, which is one of the major objectives of the recently launched national development plan. Investment in agro-based projects have also a high labour employment content, and economic benefits are easily distributed within our rural community. This is expected to bring about balanced regional development and achieve the goal of dispersal of industries to all areas of the republic.

Since the centre's establishment in November 1982, seven new major industrial and agricultural projects with the job creation potential for 3,500 people and capital investment of Kshs. 300 million have so far been approved by the government through the Investment Advisory and Promotion Centre. ■

ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF FOOD AID DISCUSSED

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 10 Feb 84 p 19

[Article by C. Odegi-Awuondo]

[Text] IN this century the famine disease appears to have been driven out of its homeland in Europe, Russia and China into the so-called poor countries of the world. In Africa, Latin America and Asia the famine epidemic has found almost a permanent host. Hardly a day passes without one hearing talk of a food crisis looming over us. In Africa alone some 150 million people are threatened with hunger (*WR*, January 6, 1984). In "What Kind of Africa by the Year 2000?", the delegates at the Monrovia Symposium express their fear that Africa is fast drifting toward a major food disaster despite her vast natural resources and the trustworthy efforts of her people and governments. Africa is notorious for her inability to feed her population and must depend on advanced nations to do that for her. We have no reason to believe that Kenya will escape the coming food crisis for the nation has a timetable of a severe famine every ten years: 1961-2; 1970-71; 1979-80. It is true Kenya is ahead of many African nations in having a national food policy drawn up as a result of the nasty lesson learnt from the 1980 famine; but this policy document is not the final treatise on our food security. The day when all Kenyans will have access to adequate food intake is nowhere near.

These famines can be extremely costly to the nation. They result in human losses, emaciation, disease and malnutrition in infants. Experts argue that the production losses to the economy due to any famine amount to ten times the relief costs. For instance, records show that the relief costs during the 1961-2 famines were KShs. 100

million. This means that the production losses were KShs. 1,000 million - a truly astronomical figure! Owing to these wide-ranging and prohibitive costs of hunger, clearly, the challenge of finding permanent solutions to our recurrent food shortages is a real one.

There is a growing danger in third world countries to think first of food aid when suggesting the means of fighting hunger. Yet, the consequences of food aid can be extremely devastating - economically, socially and politically. Economically, food aid generates dependency and thus erodes the people's initiative to produce sufficient food locally. This leaves room for exploitation by the agribusiness concerns interested in dominating the food market and reaping huge profits. It is also common knowledge that donor nations, especially the USA, see food aid as a means of disposing of surplus grain which cannot find a market and is therefore an embarrassment to them. In many cases food given as aid has been in store for too long and is not fit for human consumption, and even unfit for animal consumption in America. This food can be a health hazard. Worse still, the food given is generally of the wrong type, given in large quantities and carelessly administered resulting in immediate serious physiological and medical problems.

Experience from the Turkana region of Kenya will bear out this claim. During the last famine, large quantities of dried maize grain poured into the district from donor agencies. The European Economic Community food supplies hit the KShs. 56 million mark

by the end of 1981. Since there are no posho mills in Turkana this maize was poorly prepared, poorly cooked and eaten without any protein food supplements. The pastoralists are completely unused to such starchy foods. The people expressed their predicament by stating that they were forced by circumstances beyond their control to feed on "filth". They had developed severe stomach problems, and their children had overgrown bellies and diarrhoea. These are sure symptoms of protein deficiency malnutrition. At the time of the author's fieldwork, it was further feared that the people risked being hit by another cholera epidemic due to the widespread diarrhoea among the infants and the poor sanitation in the heavily congested famine relief camps.

Yet, that is not the end of the Turkana story. The availability of dried maize provided a ready means of responding to the squeeze of the market economy. Today pastoralists depend quite a lot on the monetary economy for survival. They need consumer goods such as sugar, tea, maize meal, meat, soda, soap, cloth, tobacco, etc. in their daily life. To procure these they need money. In good times they will sell their animals and animal products to earn cash income for that purpose. Since the droughts of 1979-80 wiped out nearly 80 per cent of their herds, rendering some

60,000 Turkana destitute, the people were left searching for viable alternatives, and these were not found. Under these extreme conditions the people were compelled to channel the "useless" maize to more economically rewarding forms- *busaa* (*oporot*) and *chang'aa*. It was a booming business for those who engaged in it due to the ready market provided by the heavy concentration of population in and around the famine relief camps. The people were concentrated at Kaleng (4,500), Kaikor (5,000), Lokitaung (8,000), Lowarengak (5,500) and the smaller relief camps at Kaeris, Kanukuridio, and Nachukwi (7,000). Lokitaung was leading in *busaa* and *chang'aa* brewing and its consumption. Maybe this is due to the fact that it is the most urbanised centre in Turkana north of Lodwar. The police did their best to curb the trade but they failed. The entire population became alcoholic; and those who could afford it, especially the salariat, drank themselves stupid; others to the point of insanity. The immediate evils of this phenomenon were real. One cannot doubt the physiological and sociological consequences of feeding a starving population on nothing better than liquor. Moreover, no one expects a drunken people to be economically productive. Thus food aid is a bomb, killing off the people. ■

BEEF CONSUMPTION INCREASING; PRODUCTION DECREASING

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 24 Feb 84 p 18

[Text] FIVE years ago, a team of research experts within the ministry of agricultural and livestock development warned that Kenya may have to import beef in the future unless something was done to harmonise the consumption and production of beef in the country. At that time, available statistical data showed consumption outstripped production by well over 2.5 per cent a year.

In spite of rising prices of meat since, consumption has not dropped. On the contrary, urban Kenyans have intensified their intake of boiled and roast meat and business premises dealing in these commodities continue to mushroom all over the country. In contrast to that, production is reported to be decreasing and the much talked about crisis could well be here with us. Major butchers are already having problems securing adequate quality beef stocks for slaughter. According to experts in the beef industry, one of the major factors that has contributed to the non-availability of high grade beef stock is depletion grazing space in the traditional production areas. Traditionally, high grade beef was bred in Agricultural Development Corporation and the Settlement Fund Trust large-scale farms as well as a chain of private ranches mainly in Laikipia, Nakuru, Uasin Gishu and Trans Nzoia districts. These would be supplemented by quantities of lower grade stocks from the arid districts of Kitui, Kajiado, Narok, Machakos and part of the Coast and North Eastern provinces.

Over the years, however, nearly all of the ADC and SFT farms have been subdivided as part of the government's on-going programmes to settle the landless in the country. The new

settlers, thousands of small-holder peasants, have little or no interest in raising beef animals and have converted their land to crop production on a subsistence basis. The political forces behind this trend are so strong that hardly anyone seems to have any suggestions on how the trend can be checked; and those who have would rather not air them.

In the arid areas, the performance is not much better. Except for the residents of areas like Machakos and Kitui who have been for years exposed to a cash economy, the majority of the residents of such areas like Narok, Kajiado and most of the North Eastern Province have faithfully clung to their traditional practices where they keep large herds of animals as a social and economic status symbol. In spite of their large herds, these people traditionally will only sell old bulls that can no longer reproduce or when their herds are threatened with being wiped out by drought. In the case of drought, there is a stampede to unload the animals, and since most private butchers will ordinarily not touch the emaciated animals, it is left to the state-owned Kenya Meat Commission to do the best it can to deal with the flood.

For instance, in 1983, the KMC slaughtered some 83,583 head of cattle, an average of about 7,000 head a month. Following the unusual heavy rains in November and December 1982, there was adequate pastures at the beginning of 1983, leading to well-fattened stocks. As a result, the stock owners in the arid areas retained their animals and intake of slaughter animals to the KMC between January and March 1983 averaged only about 2,000 animals a month. When it got dry

towards end of the year, and the animals lost weight and were threatened with starvation, there was a stampede to sell and the intake for December alone was well over 12,000 heads. There were reports in the press of cattle dying in holding pens at the KMC factory at Athi River as the commission to cope with the flood.

The only catch is that even when there is such a flood, it has no economic impact on KMC's performance, except a negative one, and it does not improve the supply of beef in the country. According to KMC managing commissioner, Mr. Michael Njeru M'Uthi, animals from the arid areas

generally are not fat covered well enough to be eaten as fresh meat. A few that may be on the higher scale make in on the local market as low grade cuts, most are processed as canned beef mainly for the export market, while some are so bad they have to be ground to make animal feed, such as dog meal.

The Kenya Meat Commission needs to slaughter a given number of high quality stock every month in order to break even - an objective the commission has found increasingly harder to achieve over the years. Its two factories in Athi River and Mombasa, operating at full capacity in three shifts, can handle up to 800 cattle a day, or

17,600 head of cattle a month--a monstrous figure compared to the recorded intakes given above for 1983. With availability of quality stocks, the KMC has what M'Uthi called "unlimited export orders", which the commission cannot fulfil under the current situation. To keep the commission afloat, the government last year gave the KMC a monopoly of supplying fresh meat to all government and other institutions, such as hospitals, schools, and colleges, in the country. As a result, the commission was able, within the last 11 months of the year, to hike its local sales to shs. 81 million and for the first time in many years showed an operating profit before finance charges, most of which related to old debts loaned to the commission as government-guaranteed loans in 1977/78 when the commission was in one of its worst economic crises.

In addition to that, the commission was able to negotiate an increase in its overdraft facility with the National Bank of Kenya from shs. 10 million to shs. 25 million. The commission also negotiated an export finance agreement for shs. 50 million with the same bank to assist it procure and prepare stocks for the export market on a 90 days credit basis.

It was, however, the monopoly to supply meat to public institutions that has generated the most heat in the beef industry in the country. Private butchers have been up in arms protesting that the move would throw them out of business. They claim the KMC is being an unfair advantage on them and should concentrate on the export market and leave the private butchers to supply the local industry. The KMC argues that besides the nonavailability of quality stocks to meet the high standards of fresh meat in the export market, export-oriented operations are costly in terms of quality control in the slaughtering process (which the KMC says the private butchers do not bother with). This, the KMC says, is worsened by the commission's inability to compete with private butchers when bidding for high grade animals since the KMC's purchasing price is government controlled while private butchers have room to bid as much as they may wish as long as the price is within a level where they can still make a decent profit. The KMC feels if it had adequate supplies of high quality animals on a regular basis, it could concentrate on the export market and leave the local market to private butchers. The battle has, therefore, taken a dimension where the primary factor is no longer the availability of markets but the procurement of adequate stocks for slaughter.

OVERDUE ELECTIONS NOT EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 23 Feb 84 p 6

[Article by Jasper Mortimer]

[Text] Maseru--Lesotho's long-overdue general elections are not expected to take place this year although Prime Minister Jonathan said they would.

Civil servants and observers in Maseru say that even if they did they would be 'oycotted by the main opposition and have no effect on the current civil war.

They have been comparing the recent spate of election promises to the lack of actual electoral preparation.

The Prime Minister told Radio Lesotho on New Year's Eve that he would announce the election date and call for dissolution in the Parliamentary session that begins on Friday.

Chief Jonathan also repeated his pledge to hold a pre-election census (presumably to assist in constituency delimitation).

But when the Bureau of Statistics was asked about the census two weeks later, Deputy-Director Mr M Mpiti said the next one was planned for 1986 (10 years after the 1st one) and that if one were to be held this year, "I'm sure I would have been instructed by now".

Voters Roll

His statement conflicted sharply with that of Information Minister Mr Desmond Sixishe who said in November:

"The Prime Minister has given instructions that the census must be taken immediately. We shall not wait for 1986."

Further the Government has not begun to update the 1970 electoral roll.

With no progress on either of these preliminaries, "I don't see an election this year," said a well-placed Government source.

In which case the war, the detentions, treason trials and the 14-year-old political stalemate will continue.

War in Lesotho? Outwardly the country is calm. Tourists need not worry. But under the surface the country has never recovered from Chief Jonathan seizing power as the 1970 election returns came in.

Last year the Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA) struck at least 20 times. It blew up a Maseru fuel depot, razed an MP's house and fought battles costing 20 to 30 lives.

Chief Jonathan tells the world the LLA is harboured by South Africa, and evidence supports this, but he fails to provide an acceptable avenue for the dissent that fuels the LLA.

Opposition emerges in quieter ways as well. In the countryside the people display lack of interest, non-compliance and passive protest towards Government projects, writes US academic Mr Richard Weisfelder.

In Maseru one is struck by how many civil servants, whose livelihood is at Chief Jonathan's mercy, whisper anti-Government remarks.

Yet there are diplomats and academics who believe Chief Jonathan could win a fair election.

If this is so it means that despite all the ugly events since 1970--the ruthless crushing of the 1974 revolt, the murders of people such as opposition editor Mr Edgar Motuba, the deaths in detention--Chief Jonathan is more popular than before.

This view rests on one simple fact: the opposition is in chaos.

The major opposition party, the Basotho Congress Party (BCP), has split into at least three factions and its only leader of national stature, Mr Ntsu Mokhehle, has not raised his head in Lesotho for the past 10 years.

After the BCP there are a string of minor parties: the pro-monarchy Marema Tlou Freedom Party (MTFP), the pro-SA United Democratic Party, the dissident BCP faction of Mr Phoka Chaolane who believes in working from within the system, and dissidents of the ruling Basotho National Party such as ex-Cabinet Ministers Mr C D Molapo, Mr Justice Mokotso and Mr A C Manyeli who are opposed to Chief Jonathan forging ties with Eastern bloc states.

On January 5 Mr Chaolane, Mr C D Molapo, Mr Mokotso and representatives of the MFTP and UDP met Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in Pretoria to ask for South African funds for their election campaigns.

"Mr Botha said he was prepared to consider financing us but suggested we form an alliance," Mr Chaolane told me.

Mr Chaolane said the group had already been thinking of an alliance and that negotiations are continuing.

But Lesotho observers strongly doubt that any alliance which excludes Mr Mokhehle could beat Chief Jonathan.

However, the prospects of a Mokhehle-Jonathan election fight are remote.

From his hideout presumed to be in South Africa, Mr Mokhehle has demanded elections under international supervision.

Rejected

Chief Jonathan has flatly rejected this. He has offered Mr Mokhehle the chance to return and apologise publicly for anti-Government actions.

All in all, the immediate prospects for democracy are bleak. But Chief Jonathan has to retire some day. He turns 70 this year.

Will his successor have the ability to hold the fort? Or will a combination of opposition pressures (invigorated by Chief Jonathan's departure) and the new Premier's inexperience lead to a general loosening of the political scene?

CSO: 3400/727

REPRESSION UNDER RATSIRAKA DESCRIBED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 84 p 7

[Article by David Thomas: "Madagascar--the Forbidden Island of Fear"]

[Text]

REUNION — Every Sunday evening hundreds of Malagasies queue at Reunion's Gillot Airport with their trollies piled high with car tyres in various stages of wear and tear.

They are waiting for the scheduled Air Madagascar flight to take them home. It takes a Boeing 747 to carry them and all their tyres and bulging cardboard boxes full of other items which are virtually unavailable in Marxist-ruled Madagascar.

This was one of the many glimpses of life in Madagascar (formerly the Malagasy Republic) I had as I waited at the airport for two South Africans to be flown to freedom.

Passengers arriving on the flights from Tananarive, Madagascar's capital, often related tales of horror, human suffering, poverty and corruption.

They spoke in lowered voices and occasionally glanced nervously over their shoulders — even the 700 km of Indian Ocean which separated them from home could not shake their fear of the DGID, Madagascar's secret police.

Since the 1972 revolution, which spawned the present pro-Soviet Government, the difficulty of obtaining visas, together with the run-down condition of tourist facilities and transport services, has virtually closed Madagascar to the outside world. For South Africans, the world's fourth largest island is strictly off limits as John Wight and Dave Marais found out the hard way.

The release of these two men after seven years in a Madagascar jail has renewed interest in this terrifying and fascinating island which so many South African tourists

visited before 1972.

From stories I heard about Madagascar's brand of justice it is obvious that the two prisoners must have gone through hell.

A woman from Madagascar, who now lives in Reunion, told me how her once sturdily built mother emerged after two years in jail so emaciated, scarred and aged that she was barely recognisable.

Her crime? She had ordered her tractor driver to plough in five banana saplings which someone had maliciously planted in her freshly ploughed field.

Her tractor driver also went to jail despite her persistent pleas that he had been ordered to do the job. In Madagascar it is a criminal offence to destroy any tree which bears food.

Expatriate businessmen who live in "Tana", the popular name for the capital, told me how they have to hire armed guards to protect their laundry when it is hung out in their backyards — even though the yards are invariably surrounded by high walls topped with broken glass.

Cars parked for more than a few minutes, even in broad

daylight, are sure to lose their wheels and any other detachable parts.

I was told that it was a constant battle to keep pickpockets at bay in the streets of the capital.

Every Madagascar resident to whom I spoke claimed to have had a brush at one time or another with the DGID, President Didier Ratsiraka's North Korean-trained secret police. The organisation is headed by the President's brother-in-law, Colonel Raveloson Mahasampa.

Wight and Marais spent much of their time in the hands of this most notorious arm of the security apparatus

set up to ease President Ratsiraka's twin fears of assassination and attack by South Africa.

The President's fear of assassination appears to be genuine. He has not forgotten that his predecessor lasted only six days in office before falling to an assassin. The euphemism "he died in mysterious circumstances" has done little to discredit the widespread belief that President Ratsiraka had a hand in the killing.

But his publicly stated concern about a South African/mercenary invasion is thought to be a posture to maintain the flow of Russian

and North Korean arms.

The President's official residence is reportedly protected by anti-aircraft batteries and a special bunker has been built nearby in case of attack.

Verbal reports which have filtered out of the island claim that a groundswell of popular opposition to the Ratsiraka Government has been building up since he was re-elected for a second seven-year term with 80 percent of the vote in November 1982.

The reason? The dismal failure of Ratsiraka's Malagasy brand of "Red Book" socialism to lift Madagascar out of its economic plight.

Madagascar, once an ex-

porter of its staple food, now has to import rice in huge quantities. The government's socialist policies discourage the island's traditional producers, the peasant farmers, from planting any more rice than they need to subsist.

Madagascar's foreign exchange coffers are virtually empty and the country is constantly on the verge of bankruptcy.

These political and economic realities are now turning the Ratsiraka Government increasingly towards the West which is more willing and able to help with bread-and-butter aid than the regime's traditional Eastern bloc allies.

For the first 12 years after independence in 1960 Madagascar, under President Philibert Tsiranana, was staunchly pro-West and even had ties with South Africa.

But, after the 1972 riots, the Government that emerged from the shambles did an about-turn to the East.

'EMPLOYMENT' AVENUES IN GULF TAPPED

Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 10 Jan 84 p 18

[Text]

MAURITIUS, the Indian Ocean island-state where the Marxist government was recently replaced by a left-centre-right coalition, is seeking the assistance of Arab Gulf states, to solve its severe unemployment problem.

Its Deputy Prime Minister, Sir C. Gaetan Duval, Q.C., has been touring Qatar and Bahrain to explore employment opportunities for thousands of skilled and unskilled Mauritians rendered jobless "as a result of the policies of the previous government".

Sir Gaetan, in Dubai on a two-day private visit, told Khaleej Times in an airport interview yesterday that he would be proceeding to Saudi Arabia in pursuit of the same mission which he later proposed to extend also to the UAE.

Sir Gaetan said that although Mauritius was a small country it was finding it difficult to sustain its population in circumstances reduced by what he termed "unwise" Marxist experiments with the economy that resulted in massive unemployment.

A lot of the island's industry had been shut down and it would take much time and effort to get the

economy on an even keel. In the interim period Mauritius sought the assistance of Arab Gulf countries.

He said his country was not seeking financial aid but called for the absorption of the Mauritian labour force which included doctors, nurses, technicians and construction workers among others. Saudi Arabia and Qatar have already employed some Mauritians but the government was seeking increased opportunities.

The country also had a sizeable industrial infrastructure capable of producing goods for export to this area, he said.

However the main problem which prevented making optimum use of this capacity which included a knitwear industry that was the third largest exporter to Europe and the United States—was lack of communications. Mauritius was virtually isolated from the Gulf region. But there are plans to establish better links and one of these involved negotiations with the Saudi Government for securing traffic rights to that country for Air Mauritius, the national carrier. If these negotiations materialised, the airline would seek also to serve other parts of the Arab Gulf region.

Apart from manpower, Mauritius offered this area a tourism opportunity which Sir Gaetan said was unrivalled by any other resort country throughout the Indian Ocean region.

Its tourism infrastructure was very well developed, nature combining with human endeavour to offer extremely attractive vacation retreats.

Tourism was Mauritius' third largest money earner. Sir Gaetan thought there was considerable potential for developing Gulf Arab tourism traffic to his country.

There was also ample opportunities for Gulf Arabs and other nationalities to establish industries and make commercial investment in Mauritius—which boasts of a free trade zone and tax incentives for foreign investors. He said that capital could be repatriated freely.

Sir Gaetan emphasised his government's commitment to free enterprise and said foreign investors would be well rewarded by returns from the free flow of capital and availability of cheap labour.

Business representatives and executives of local banking concerns with branches in Mauritius, met Sir Gaetan during his stopover at Dubai Airport.

CSO: 3400/762

MOZAMBIKAN AUTHORITIES SEEK TO HALT EMIGRATION TO NATION FROM TETE

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 24 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Mozambican authorities are studying ways to halt the emigration to Zimbabwe by people of the Tete Province because of widespread hunger.

A senior Mozambican official said his government was looking into ways of providing food to alleviate the plight of the drought-stricken families some of whom were reported to have crossed over the border into Zimbabwe in recent weeks.

He said the Commission of Natural Disasters was planning to supply maize to people in the southern part of Tete Province where the situation was reported to be serious.

Impossible

According to the Tete provincial authorities, it was impossible to send food regularly to villages in the southern part of the province because of attacks by MRM bandits. "Even vehicles of the Red Cross are attacked and burnt by these bandits," he said.

He said people in villages which were seriously affected could not go to other villages in the province in search of food because of the activities of bandits.

Cde Machel said peace in Capsenda, he said, people were dying in their houses and some women could not breast-feed because their breasts were drying up. [as published]

Some children, he said, could not manage to stand up due to a state of extreme weakness.

He said one of the schools in Estima village had enrolled 500 students last year but only 60 students turned up for their lessons this year. "Either some of them died on the way to school or they have gone with their parents to Zimbabwe to look for food or jobs," he said.

Shortage

In one of the villages, sionary, because of the shortage of fuel, organised a mule-cart to go and buy mealie-meal from Zimbabwe 180 km away. [as published]

The missionary said he was worried about the situation because he had distributed all the food he had to the people in the district. "The lepers, the blind, the old and the disabled, what am I going to do with them?" he asked.

Apart from the problem already existing of malnutrition and dehydration, there was an increasing risk of epidemics caused by decomposing human and animal corpses, and drinking stagnant water, he said.

He said there were scarcely any doctors in the province and the number of nurses was extremely inadequate.

He said the situation had become so serious that some people were going to Zimbabwe to exchange one chicken for a litre tin full of mealie meal.--
Ziana.

CSO: 3400/741

BRIEFS

BARREN WOMEN INCREASE—THE waning popularity of polygamous marriages, which indirectly promote child spacing, has ushered "semi-literate" Mozambican women into an era of increased maternal and infant mortality rates, a recent study by the Mozambican National Women's Organisation has shown. The study also shows that in the Northern Province of Cabo, Delgado, for example, up to a third of the women have no living children while almost 60 per cent of the women in the study were unable to have any more children. A similar study of 115 women in the North-Western Zambia Province shows that a third of the women are barren. Only five of those able to have children said that they did not want to. According to the studies, there is strong evidence that having too few babies is perceived by many Mozambican women as much more of a problem than having too many. The number of requests for medical treatment to solve the problems of sterility is much greater than the number of requests for family planning advice or birth control, the study further shows. Traditionally, Mozambican women begin bearing children in their early teens. Repeated pregnancies on immature bodies is known to increase both infant and mortality rate. However, in traditional rural communities family planning is observed indirectly by the belief that couples should not engage in sexual relations until the baby is weaned. [Text] [Enugu DAILY STAR in English 10 Feb 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/762

SWAPO APPEALS TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES FOR MILITARY AID

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Mar 84 p 3

[Text] ADDIS ABABA: Swapo yesterday appealed to African states for guns, ammunition and money to help continue their war in Namibia.

The appeal was contained in a report submitted to the Organisation of African Unity Foreign Ministers' budgetary session here.

The document, tabled by the OAU's Liberation Committee, includes an "emergency request" by Swapo for 10 Mercedes Benz trucks, 15 jeeps, 45 000 rounds of 60mm shells and 15 000 combat uniforms.

It also appeals for an unspecified amount of money, medicine and fuel and for 40mm anti-tank guns and strela missiles.

A senior Swapo spokesman said South Africa's disengagement from southern Angola was only a pretend for delaying United Nations plans to achieve independence for Namibia.

"Swapo's Secretary for International Relations, Mr Peter Mueshihange, told delegates the disengagement accord was intended to get "Swapo disarmed and the armed struggle in Namibia unilaterally ended as the illegal occupation of the country goes on.

"It is clear to Swapo SA is deliberately trying to confuse the world by mixing up its tropp disengagement from Angola with a ceasefire in Namibia," he said.

"Swapo will continue to wage an intensified armed struggle unless South Africa accepts an immediate ceasefire and commencement of the independence process for Namibia," he added.

The African Foreign Ministers have lauded recent discussions Angola and Mozambique held with SA on easing tensions between the two black states and the Pretoria Government.

The OAU's Council of Ministers praised the talks as a "positive victory for African diplomacy," said Mr Paul Etiang, the assistant Secretary-General.

It is unanimously endorsed the Angolan and Mozambican contacts with SA "as yet another demonstration of the willingness and readiness of African States to solve the situation caused by the abhorrent racist regime (in pretoria) by peaceful means--if possible," Mr Etiang told a news conference at the end of the conference's fourth day.--Sapa

CSO: 3400/706

CONSOLIDATED DIAMOND CONFIDENT OF STAYING IN BUSINESS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 5 Mar 84 p 20

[Text]

ORANJEMUND. —Diamond production at South West Africa's CDM mine is likely to remain steady at around one-million carats annually, mine general manager Mr Kobus van Jaarsveld told journalists on a rare Press visit to the mine.

He said that because of falling grades, this would remain the case even from 1986 when a planned treatment plant changeover would increase the amount of material treated by some 15 percent.

Production at CDM, owned by De Beers, has halved since 1978 as the price and demand for diamonds, particularly the large gems that predominate at the mine, have slumped.

"We're producing the wrong sort of diamonds — they're too good," Mr van Jaarsveld said, adding that the recent upturn in the world market had had little effect on CDM's fortune.

CDM's contribution to after tax group profits has slumped from R135-million in 1979 to R28-million in 1982.

As a proportion of group carat output, CDM's share has fallen to 5.8 percent from 11.8 percent during that time and analysts feel a further fall occurred in 1983 as output from mines in Botswana increased by 43 percent to 11-million carats.

Asked about the mine's life, Mr van Jaarsveld said this would depend on the state of the world markets and cost patterns, among other factors. The current mining programme was designed to keep the mine open as long as it was feasible.

"It's impossible for me to say how long we'll be here, but we hope to be around in the year 2000," he said.

He also expressed confidence about CDM's existence in an independent South West Africa, saying: "We don't fear that event. We feel that our practices are such that we can live with any government."

CSO: 3400/706

POSSIBILITY OF SA-SWAPO CEASEFIRE, TALKS EXPLORED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 4, 15 Feb 84 pp 1-3

[Commentary: "Namibia: A Flicker of Hope"]

[Text]

South Africa's military "disengagement" from Cunene province in southern Angola, announced by prime minister **Pieter Botha** on 31 January, has yet to develop into a general ceasefire along the Angola/Namibia border. It remains unclear whether all South African troops will quit Angolan soil and the MPLA government is already expressing concern to Western countries that Pretoria seems set to retain troops to protect the Ruacana hydrostation.

Nevertheless, both African and Western diplomatic sources are cautiously optimistic that once a truce is established, it can be extended beyond the end of February so that Namibia settlement talks can be resumed. A positive sign is that SWAPO leader **Sam Nujoma** has said his organisation will not hinder an Angola-South African ceasefire, although some guerrilla units of the *People's Liberation Army of Namibia* (PLAN) deep in the bush may be less willing to suspend all activities.

A key pointer to whether Pretoria's disengagement marks a genuine shift in attitude or is merely another tactical ploy, lies in how South Africa responds to Nujoma's demands for direct talks with South Africa on neutral ground. South Africa's foreign minister, **Pik Botha** responded positively to Nujoma in December on condition that SWAPO agreed to talk to a delegation headed by the Namibian Administrator-General, **Dr Willie van Niekerk**.

SWAPO's subsequent acceptance of this offer seems to have come as an unwelcome surprise to South Africa as Botha said that he saw little point in "further discussion" after taking public umbrage at SWAPO's reminder that it was not interested in a re-run of the abortive 1981 Geneva conference. However this is unlikely to be the final word from

Pretoria. During his tour of several southern African states last month, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, **Dr Chester Crocker**, made it known that Washington would be very disappointed if SWAPO's observance of the truce was not followed by a direct dialogue.

SWAPO is worried that the inclusion of representatives of Namibia's "internal" parties in a van Niekerk delegation, would give them a direct involvement in settlement talks. As in Geneva they could use the opportunity to insist on SWAPO's derecognition by the UN. Just as **Dr Jonas Savimbi's** UNITA movement has no formal role in negotiations to establish a ceasefire as part of the implementation of UN Resolution 435, the participation of the internal parties forms part of South Africa's agenda for a settlement. Crocker's meeting in Cape Town with leaders of the six parties participating in the multi-Party Conference (MPC) in Windhoek has been interpreted by Pretoria as a signal of Washington's attitude.

In his speech to parliament announcing the disengagement, **Pieter Botha's** references to the "tremendous financial burden" of the cost of both the war and of propping up Namibian administration are seen by Western analysts as confirmation that Pretoria is now prepared to withdraw from Namibia. It could be calculating that as with Mozambique, it would retain sufficient leverage over an independent government to enable it, for example, to enforce a ban on the ANC using Namibia as any kind of base for military activities.

We understand that proposals for the "neutrality" of an independent Namibia along the lines of the non-aggression pacts sought by South Africa with its

neighbours are being redrafted for inclusion in any settlement. This would revamp the so-called "non-paper" prepared by the Western contact group two years ago under the three phase negotiations designed to establish a constitutional framework for an independent Namibia prior to implementation of Resolution 435 (AC Vol 23 No 3).

South Africa's reappraisal of its position in Namibia may rest on the realisation of South African Defence Force (SADF) chiefs and its Military Intelligence that in the event of a protracted war it will be forced to match ever more sophisticated weapon supplies from the **Soviet Union** without any guarantee that a reelected **Reagan** Administration would relax the arms embargo on South Africa. Despite the success of dramatic attacks in the December incursion, on the ground the SADF found things harder going than expected (AC Vol 25 No 2).

Botha revealed that South Africa's direct and indirect aid to Namibia over the present financial year (to 31 March 1984) cost R560m and R400-500m in military and security expenditure. This includes a direct transfer to the SWA/Namibian Central Revenue Fund of R240m from Pretoria, now largely being used to pay for the bloated bureaucracy and financial incompetence of the second-tier "representative" (ethnic) authorities, and R250m in lieu of customs and excise receipts. Namibia is an involuntary member of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and does not collect its own customs dues.

South Africa is likely to be asked to increase its aid to Windhoek in the 1984/85 year. Although demand has increased for minerals, which constitute 80% of Namibia's export revenues, better prices for zinc and some base metals produced in Namibia have been offset by the weak world diamond market and lower sales revenue and profits at the *Rossing* uranium mine. London stockbrokers *De Zoete & Bevan* predict that *Rossing's* 1983 profits will be about 10% down on the £91m of 1982. The outlook is for generally lower profits as a result of a fall in long-term contract prices. This reflects the low uranium spot market price and difficulties for *Rio Tinto-Zinc* in continuing to market *Rossing's* output. Specifically it has yet to find an alternative to the **British** contract for 7,500 tons which ended this month and is not being renewed.

Although *Rossing* is now liable to a higher tax charge as it has written-off its £250m development costs, this will still be far less than the £50m normally paid by *De Beers'* wholly-owned CDM gem diamond operation. Last October, van Niekerk announced an increase in the General Sales Tax (GST) from 6% to 7%, three months before South Africa introduced a similar increase. The move provoked unprece-

ented opposition from the local white business community and brought unwelcome attention on the low levels of tax paid by the Namibian mining industry. **Eric Lang**, a prominent white business critic of the Windhoek administration, claims that while the GST brought in R51m in 1982, excluding diamonds, the mining industry paid out only R2m in taxes. The participant, the *Namibia Christian Democratic Party* maladministration by the ethnic authorities is also probing the mining industry. It has been disclosed that local officials are not permitted to query the mining companies' assessments of their taxable pro-**Joseph Strauss**. The only other internal party of any

The 1983/84 budget deficit of R223m before loans is likely to be even higher in the coming financial year as spending will go up again and revenue will at best stay static. Further commercial loans will have to be raised to finance the deficit.

Botha also declared that an independent Namibia might "default" on the R690m of commercial loans already raised for the Windhoek administration, mostly by banks in South Africa. All such "SWA/Namibia/stock" is guaranteed by the South African Reserve Bank, and the burden these have placed on Namibia's finances was revealed by Botha's assertion that in the event of a default South Africa would be liable to interest payments of double the capital owed. SWAPO has been advised that since this debt has been incurred after the International Court of Justice advisory opinion of 1981, confirming the illegality of South Africa's continued administration, it is not an obligation that a Namibian government would be bound to honour.

Another sign that Pretoria may be considering a withdrawal that is politically acceptable to its white electorate is the heavy emphasis that Botha gave to the activities of the MPC and the need for the people of Namibia to "demonstrate their willingness to produce a viable political solution". The refusal by the internal parties to accept van Niekerk's offer of participating in another "interim government" has forced Pretoria to drop its idea of setting up a Namibian Council of State.

Although disparate politically, the six MPC parties issued a joint statement on 24 January saying that the existing Namibian political and constitutional order is "unsatisfactory" and "contrary" to the national interest. The statement is all the more significant as Botha's *National Party* is one of the participants. The others include the *Democratic Turnhalle Alliance* (DTA), *South West Africa National Union* (SWANU), whose leader **Moses Katjuongua** played a leading role in convening the MPC last November, the *SWAPO-Democrats* of **Andreas Shipanga**, the *Damara Council* led by **Justus Garoeb** and the *National Independence Party* (NIP)

of Dr **Kenneth** and **Othilie Abrahams**. A seventh participant, the *Namibia Christian Democratic Party* (NCDP) of **Hans Rohr** has pulled out, having alleged that much of the MCP's funding comes from the ~~Hans~~ Seidel Foundation of Munich, which is closely associated with the *Christian Social Union* of **Franz-Joseph Strauss**. The only other internal party of any significance not taking part in the MPC is the *Christian Democratic Action* (CDA) of Ovamboland chief minister **Peter Kalangula**.

Under the settlement deal worked out by the contact group the UN and SWAPO have accepted that South Africa will choose the electoral system used in the first independence elections. Despite requests by UN Secretary-General **Javier Perez de Cuellar** at the end of last year, Pretoria has not yet announced what system it wants. Although both South Africa and the US have repeatedly said that, barring the **Cuban** linkage issue, all other elements relevant to a settlement are in place, implementation cannot begin until South Africa has notified the UN of its choice.

Pik Botha now says this will need careful study in view of the structure of Namibia's population. We understand that Pretoria will opt for a proportional system which will boost the prospects of small parties and would enable it to fend off charges by the white rightwing that it was handing Namibia to SWAPO on a plate ●

CSO: 3400/706

PROBLEMS REPORTED IN MANAGEMENT OF AJAOKUTA STEEL

List of Those Suspended

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Lekan Odunjo]

[Text]

THIRTEEN senior officers of the Ajaokuta Steel Company have been suspended with immediate effect.

The officials, according to a letter dated February 8, reference No. ASL/GM/TEMP/1/325 and signed by acting General Manager, Alhaji I. I. Atta, the suspension was sequel to their indictment by an internal audit report.

In the letter, which the New Nigerian gathered had the blessing of the Minister of Mines, Power and Steel Development, Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, the officers were ordered to surrender all government and company property in their possession.

The affected officials are the General Manager of the company, Dr. F.R.C. Ezemenari, now being detained at Kirikiri Maximum Prison in Lagos, and his

two deputies — Mr. A. M. Nwabuzor in charge of Commerce and Mr. I. P. Okigbo who was in charge of finance.

Others are Mr. P. N. Okoli, Assistant General Manager, (Real Estate Management), Mr. M. Saror, Assistant General Manager (Administration and Service Welfare), Mr. E. O. Mede, Assistant General Manager (Finance) and Mr. I. K. Edah, Assistant General Manager (General Manager's Officer).

Others are Mr. S. Odita, Higher Stores Officer; Mr. I. Gongul, Principal Technical Officer; Mr. C. C. Iyama, Principal Transport Officer; Miss. D. K. Nweze, Senior Public Relations Officer; Mr. L. C. Anyanwu, Assistant Technical Officer and Alhaji A. A. Negedu, the Company Secretary.

Investigation of Mismanagement

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Feb 84 pp 1, 13

[Article by Folu Adelaja]

[Text]

THE Federal Military Government has set up a four-member Commission of Inquiry to probe allegations of financial mismanagement at the multi-billion Naira Ajaokuta Steel Company.

The commission which is given one month within which to submit its report has already been inaugurated by the Minister of Mines, Power and Steel Development, Alhaji Rilwanu

Lukman.

Speaking at the inauguration, Alhaji Rilwanu said the Federal Military Government had received reports of financial malpractices which "seriously indicted some very senior officers of the company."

"So serious had been these disclosures that I was compelled to institute an indepth investigation into the financial management of the company," he disclosed.

Alhaji Rilwanu said that the most serious of these allegations was in the internal audit annual interim report of the company for the period ended December, last year.

This report highlighted "serious irregularities in the award of contracts, payments for goods supplied and services to the company, as well as general violations of financial rules and regulations and known accounting practices and procedures,"

he declared.

The commission whose chairman is Mr. J.B. Ajala, a director at the Federal Ministry of Justice was given eight terms of reference. They, are among other things, to enquire into the veracity of the report of the steel company's chief internal auditor; assess the procedures for the procurement of goods and services by the company and probe into any other matters that might be considered necessary.

The panel was also empowered to recommend appropriate penalties for those they might find guilty in the course of the investigation.

Other members of the panel are Mr. J.C. Asugha, the Assistant Director of Audit in the Federal Audit Department; Mr. O.A. Solano, Controller of Finance and Accounts in the Federal Ministry of Finance. The secretary is Mr. B.B. Olowodola, Senior Assistant Secretary, in the Federal Ministry of Mines, Power and Steel.

CSO: 3400/705

REPORTAGE ON EDUCATION SYSTEM CHANGES

Private Universities Scrapped

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Feb 84 p 16

[Text]

PRIVATE universities in Nigeria are to go, the Federal Military Government has said.

Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, told editors and media executives at the monthly press briefing in Dodan Barracks, Lagos that the government was working on a decree to scrap the existing private universities and forbid the establishment of new ones in the near future.

Brigadier Idiagbon pointed out that it was 'clearly undesirable to allow the establishment of private universities at this stage of Nigeria's educational and social development.'

He warned that after the promulgation of the decree, 'anybody who purports to run any private university would be exposing himself to the appropriate penalties.'

On the fate of students of such universities, he said the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), would assist in the transfer of students of the private universities to duly accredited universities, provided such students possessed the requisite qualifications.

'The Federal Military Government has also directed the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, in consultation with the National Universities Commission (NUC) to examine urgently the issue of establishing

guidelines for the accreditation of new universities and other institutions of higher learning,' he said.

Brigadier Idiagbon, however pointed out that 'from the projection of costs of education in Nigeria in 1983-84 and 1987-88, no private person can honestly claim that he has funds to establish and run a university.'

Private entrepreneurs, if allowed, are likely to turn higher education into commercial ventures to the detriment of unsuspecting students and the image of Nigeria in the international labour market, he said.

On unemployment, Brigadier Idiagbon expressed government's concern, particularly on graduate unemployment.

He said identifiable contributions to this were defects in the country's education system, lack of industrial training facilities, the problem of rural/urban drift, restrictions in labour mobility and ineffective administration of expatriate quota system.

To solve these problems, he said, government would give positive support to the new national policy on education with regard to implementation of the 6-3-3-4 system with emphasis on vocational training to meet industrial and technological developments.

He said the administration would tackle vigorously the rural-urban drift while the 'thorny issue of expatriate quota system will be continuously

reviewed to ensure that qualified Nigerians are not displaced by expatriates.'

Overseas Scholarships Abolished

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 18 Feb 84 pp 1, 9

[Article by Nkem Agetua]

[Excerpt] THE Federal Government has abolished overseas scholarships except for courses in specialised fields, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters said in Moscow on Wednesday.

He told members of the Nigerian embassy and representatives of Nigerian students however that the government would give scholarships to Nigerian students only for courses that were not available in local universities.

Brigadier Idiagbon said current beneficiaries either from federal or state governments could enjoy the award till the end of their first degree courses.

Brigadier Idiagbon said private students would be allowed to study abroad, but warned that there would be no foreign exchange approvals for them.

He also said a committee of experts had been set-up to examine the issue of harmonising the educational system in the country.

School Fees in Kaduna

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Feb 84 pp 1, 13

[Article by Waziri Garba]

[Excerpt] KADUNA State Government is looking into the possibility of reintroducing primary and secondary schools fees, community and entertainment tax in a bid to generate more revenue, the governor, Air-Commodore Usman Mu'azu has said.

He told newsmen during a press briefing at the Government House yesterday that the idea of re-introducing the fees was to enable the government to meet its commitment in priority areas such as payment of salaries, education, health services and water supply.

He explained that the method of collecting the taxes, especially the community tax, would be such that the amount spent in the process would not exceed the actual amount generated.

On education, the governor said even with improved finances, the government would not be able to meet the expenses of running board institutions. Government would therefore review the present system to eliminate the situation whereby boarding institutions were run at the expense of education at rural level, the governor said. The review, he added, would entail the establishment of more day secondary schools while voluntary agencies would also be encouraged to do the same under strict government guidelines.

On finances of the state, the governor said that of the 375.1 million Naira worth of contract awarded by ministries and parastatals in the last administration, the government was owing contractors about 144.9 million Naira. This is in addition to a 15 million Naira internal loan and 27.8 million Naira external loan plus other World Bank loans for agricultural and water projects in the state.

Federal Government Pays Half

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Yusuf Ozi Usman]

[Text] FEDERAL Military Government is to contribute 50 per cent of the total cost of primary education in each state of the federation, the Military Governor of Kano State, Air-Commodore Hamza Abdullahi has said.

Speaking during a visit to the state Ministry of Local Government yesterday, the governor said state and local governments would share the balance of 50 per cent of the running cost of primary education.

He said very soon the state Ministry of Education would bring out a proposal on how best to tackle the problem of primary education.

Air-Commodore Abdullahi said that henceforth all bank accounts of the ministries of education and local government be lodged with the state-owned Co-operative Bank to ensure uniformity and facilitate transfer of money from the centre to the local governments.

The governor said all categories of local government workers in the state whose appointments were based purely on political consideration would be flushed out.

The Commissioner for Local Government and Community Development, Alhaji Musa Shuai'bu, had earlier told the governor that the main problem facing the ministry was the funding of primary education. He expressed the need to transfer the supporting unit of the former Ministry of Community Development to his ministry in order to achieve optimum result in community development efforts.

CSO: 3400/705

DETAILS ON EAST LONDON PORT FACILITIES GIVEN

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Simon Willson]

[Text]

EAST LONDON, the principal maize port, will be stretched to the limit this year as it tries to handle its biggest-ever maize imports.

Facilities are geared to exporting maize. East London has the Southern Hemisphere's most advanced grain elevator which is part of a high-technology dockside installation geared to handling bulk maize exports at high speed.

This year East London's specialised exporting plant will lie idle. The drought has caused a 4-million-ton shortfall in the domestic maize crop which will have to be met by imports.

The import process will be slow and laborious. Incoming maize will have to be unloaded by crane at a fraction of the pace and efficiency of exports.

Representatives of Sats and the Maize Board meet this afternoon for crucial talks on planning the mammoth importing operation.

Today's talks will also allocate the 4-million to 4.5-million ton import requirement between the main ports. It is understood East London will have to cope with about 2-million tons in the 12 months from May.

"We will need to operate with split-second timing to get things operating smoothly at East London this year," a spokesman for Rennies Shipping said yesterday.

Rennies will act as shipping agent handling the port's imports for the Maize Board.

East London's highly-mechanised grain elevator was commissioned in 1967. It takes maize directly out of dockside silos and rushes it by conveyor belt and chute straight into the holds of the vessels.

Maize exporting through the elevator is usually done at the rate of 1 650 tons an hour.

Importing will be dramatically slower. Maize consignments will have to be lifted from ships' holds by crane into rail trucks.

Experts say the maximum possible workrate by this method will be 1 650 tons a day.

"It looks as though we will be faced with a very tall order but I think we will cope," Mr Brian Peddey, port manager, said yesterday.

"We have already imported 500 000 tons since June to make up for the last failed domestic maize crop, so we have had a bit of practice."

He added, however, that 2-million tons a year would probably prove to be the port's maximum import capacity.

"We won't be able to go any higher and that could be serious if the drought continues and the import requirement rises still further. Where will there be the extra capacity to import still more maize?"

East London port authorities plan to maximise vessel-handling capacity by part-offloading ships so that they rise in the water and can be berthed upriver for full offloading.

Mr Peddey said no more than two of the port's eight commercial berths could be devoted simultaneously to maize vessels.

CCN RECORD OF DETAINEES PUBLISHED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 8 Mar 84 p 2

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Seventeen prisoners from South West Africa are serving life sentences in South African prisons, according to information compiled by the Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) and confirmed by the South African Prison Services yesterday.

But the total number of SWA prisoners in South African prisons is in dispute. According to the CCN, there are 46. But a spokesman for the Prisons Service said yesterday there were only 36.

None of the five men transferred to prisons in SWA last week, two of whom have been released, were serving life sentences.

Very few of the Namibian people held on Robben Island have had visits recently from relatives and friends, said a spokesman for the Dependents Conference in Cape Town.

Bishop James Kauluma, Anglican Bishop of Windhoek, said people visiting Robben Island had found the situation "very frightening. They think they will be subject to victimisation."

Since the release of Mr Herman Toivo Ja Toivo, one of the founders of Swapo, there has been mounting speculation that more prisoners will be released soon.

At a Press conference in Lusaka, Swapo leader Mr Sam Nujoma said his organisation would continue to intensify

its war against occupation forces inside SWA — regardless of the recent disengagement of troops in southern Angola by South Africa and Angola.

However, Mr Nujoma said, Swapo was interested in backing genuine and tangible peace efforts.

Mr Nujoma declined to comment on speculation he would meet Mr Toivo in Lusaka within the next few days.

He said he did not know if Mr Toivo would be given a passport.

A passport for Mr Toivo was being considered, a spokesman for the passport office in Windhoek said yesterday.

And Swapo yesterday accused the Swapo Democrats leader Mr Andreas Shipanga of complicity in an alleged

South African attack on SWA refugees, in which it said 24 people were killed and 45 injured.

The charge was made in a Swapo radio broadcast from Harare last night reports ANDRE VILJOEN.

The broadcast replied to accusations made by Mr Shipanga at a Press conference in Windhoek yesterday.

Swapo dismissed Mr Shipanga's charges that Mr Nujoma had ordered the removal of pictures of Mr Toivo from Swapo offices — and that Swapo was holding detainees in concentration camps in African countries.

● According to CCN records, the men serving life sentences are:

Elizar Tuhadeleh (sentenced in 1968), Mathias Elias (1968), Abel Haluteni (1968), Simeon Hamaleno (Namungangal) (1968), Rudolf Kadhukwa (1968), Petrus Kamati (1968), Matheus Kanyule (1968), Sakeas Lituka (1968), Rehabeam Nambinga (Olavi) (1968), Jakob Nghidinua (1968), Malaka Shivute Uushona (1968), Bethuel Nuunyango (1968), Geus Shikombe (1968), Shanyinywa Ndaula (1968), Johannes Shiponeni (1968), Philemon Shitlifa (1968) and Victory Messach (1968).

The other people on Robben Island are believed to be

Eino Kandjo (due for release in 1988), Justus Haire (1988), Efiem Kopolu (1988), Joseph Helao Shithyuuete (1988), Immanuel Shifidi (1988), Kaleb Tjipahura (1988), Johannes Otto Nankuthu (1988), Johannes Shiponeni (1988), Simeon Shihungeleni (1988), Naftal Amundulu (1988), Ndjaula Shanyingwa (1988), Petrus Simon Nalenga (1988), Festus Nehale (1987), Simina Ntlenge (1987), Michael Moses (1987), Joseph Lpangeliwa (1987), Eliases Anabanc (1987), B. Ishinda (1987), Tona Meshwila (1987), David Shimuefeli (1987), M. Amgulu (1988), M. Kapawasha (1988), N. Limene (1988), B. Ulenge (1991), Isaac Haufika (1988), Emmanuel Augustus (1988) and Phileas Sokeni Itika (1988).

CSO: 3400/762

DIFFERING CONCEPTS OF REFORM EXPLORED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 7 Mar 84 p 10

[Article by Probert A. Schrire, professor of Political Studies at the University of Cape Town]

[Text]

The traditional white approach to black political demands has been to attempt to dictate the issues and the alternatives. We have as a result no experience of the bargaining and the compromises that characterise genuine politics and negotiations.

Whites are deluding themselves if they believe that this can continue indefinitely. The nominal incorporation of coloured and Asian elites into the political system will force even the normally fumbling Labour Party leaders to articulate their own independent vision of the good society.

One concept that will have to be carefully defined is that of reform. Although the National Party is now using the rhetoric of reform, few politicians or commentators have explored the possible differences in meaning given to the term by white, coloured or black leaders.

It is possible to distinguish in broad terms between three different conceptions of reform as articulated by verligte Nationalists, liberals and radicals.

Verligte Nationalists base their vision of reform on the exclusion of blacks from the core polity. The minority black groups — the Asians and coloured people — would co-exist with the whites on a separate but more equal basis. These three groups would interact within the framework of separate group areas, education facilities and identities. Politically they would participate as separate units in national and local government affairs.

This conception of reform is thus of a society of separate but "equal" rights for whites, coloured people and Asians. The reform process would entail a reduction in racially based inequalities in public goods, including educational facilities, salaries and promotion opportunities.

"Unnecessary" discrimination such as segregation in cinemas, business districts and the prohibition on interracial sex and marriages would be removed.

The pre-eminent goal of the National Party remains to stay in power and thereby enjoy the privileges and patronage that power makes possible. Their conception of reform is thus limited to minority black participation in the policy in a way that does not endanger their hold on power, and partial deracialisation in the social and economic structures.

To liberals, on the other hand, reform has a very different meaning. They view it as a process whereby the State withdraws from regulating race relations and the market system and individual choices become more important.

Ability to pay and private preferences would determine where people sent their children to school, lived and with whom they mixed.

forcibly integrate the socio-economic fabric of society.

Whites have indicated very clearly that most support the National Party conception of reform. But if those who are not white have a genuine choice, which alternative vision of society would they find most appealing?

Blacks have never been faced with this choice because whites have dominated the marketplace of ideas. However, a struggle to define what constitutes the just society and whose conception of reform becomes public policy is inevitable. For it is clear that the philosophies of the National Party, liberals and radicals are incompatible and mutually exclusive.

For the National Party, reform is based on the exclusion of blacks and statutory racial classifications which are non-negotiable. For liberals and those who are not white, the elimination of these policies is precisely what reform is all about.

While the outcome of this struggle is uncertain, one conclusion may be reached with confidence: for the vast majority of those who are not white, the only acceptable outcome will be when the National Party has ceased to be the dominant force in society and with it its policies of a racially ordered neo-apartheid society.

Liberals also believe that blacks should be liberated from the web of regulations that control their lives and should be incorporated on some basis into the political life of the country.

In many ways radicals share more of the basic National Party approach to the role of the State in group relations than they share with liberals because they believe that the State should actively regulate inter-group relations.

However, they advocate the use of the State to attack white privilege and racism through programmes that redistribute wealth from white to black, and

'PRECARIOUS' POSITION OF CHINESE BUSINESSMEN NOTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Mar 84 p 14

[Article by Lin Menge]

[Text]

IF THE recommendations of the Strydom Committee of Inquiry into the Group Areas Act are accepted, the precarious position of Chinese businessmen in South Africa will at last be rectified.

They will be able to own and occupy property in all white areas, unless they are married to people of other population groups, the committee recommends.

But such reform may have come too late.

Dr Linda Human, of the Unisa School of Business Leadership, cited the damage done to the Chinese business community by the Group Areas Act in her D Litt et Phil thesis for Unisa in 1980.

She found that in Pretoria alone, the number of Chinese-owned shops fell from 131 to 67 between 1951 and 1961. With the relaxation in recent years of the Act as regards the Chinese, the number rose to 70.

The situation had remained so unpredictable that many Chinese people would not allow their children to follow them into business — usually small business.

Another problem was the tacit

discrimination against the Chinese — particularly younger people who competed directly with whites — in the employment field.

"Chinese people are rarely promoted to managerial positions over whites and are frequently offered salaries lower than those offered to white job-applicants," she said.

The community, which was descended mainly from skilled artisan and merchant immigrants from Canton and Moi Yean, who arrived in South Africa about 1890 — and not from the unskilled miners brought to the Rand in 1904 — now had a high level of education and living standards.

A good education was seen as "something they (the Government) can never take away from you".

Dr Human's study found most Chinese appeared to be traders in the wholesale and retail trade, professionals such as doctors, lawyers, engineers and architects, or clerks, typists, computer operators and travellers with white firms.

Although they tended to be closer to whites than other races, and were granted privileges putting them largely on the same footing, they remained legally non-white.

CSO: 3400/762

NORMALIZATION OF REGIONAL RELATIONS ANALYZED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 3 Mar 84 p 7

[Article by Herman Giliomee, professor of Political Studies at the University of Cape Town]

[Text] NEARLY 10 years after South Africa's buffer zone in the form of the Portuguese African empire collapsed, Pretoria is finally seeking to establish normal relations with all the black States and peoples of its borders.

In the eyes of some observers, South Africa during this decade acted like the region's rogue elephant by becoming engaged in needless wars and bloody acts of destabilisation.

It did desperate harm to its image without gaining anything it could not have got way back in 1974. The time has come to review this interpretation.

Ten years ago, South Africa, despite the bluster of politicians, was an insecure client of the West on which it was crucially dependent for diplomatic, economic and military support.

Highly vulnerable on account of both its internal policies and the South West African issue, South Africa, in fact, came under siege when the Portuguese empire crumbled.

Look at it from Pretoria's point of view. It couldn't know when Russia in 1975 introduced Cuban proxies into Angola whether it would stop there. The Carter administration in Washington appeared as if it was poised to bring South Africa to its knees.

After all, Vice-President Walter Mondale in 1977 suggested to an aghast Helmut Schmidt that the

United States could pressurise South Africa so much that apartheid would crumble within a year or two.

To cap it all, black South Africa thought that the whites were on the run.

South Africa's forced withdrawal from Angola in the war of 1975-76 and the Soweto uprising a few months later certainly had some connection.

The Rhodesian collapse reaffirmed the image of whites in retreat.

In a major opinion survey, South African blacks overwhelmingly agreed with the proposition that Mr Robert Mugabe and his men would have defeated the South African Defence Force had they been up against it.

What South Africa in the mid-Seventies set out to do was to transform itself from an insecure client into a regional superpower and to make it clear that it intended to behave like one.

This meant becoming as self-sufficient as possible in arms manufacture, withstanding international pressure and forcing neighbouring states to accept South Africa's ground rules, with respect to security matters.

South Africa's goal was nothing less than laying down a Monroe Doctrine for the sub-continent.

The first turning point came at the end of 1978.

A self-confident and demanding West warned South Africa that economic sanctions would inevitably follow if South Africa did not proceed rapidly towards a Namibian settlement along the lines of United Nations Resolution 435.

Despite this, South Africa coolly went ahead with its "internal solutions," which took the form of elections for a National Assembly in December 1978.

This was the Rubicon: if the West was serious, it had to act just then. However, it did nothing, except to voice mild disapproval. South Africa had effectively called the West's bluff.

The next turning point occurred in January 1981, when the new American Secretary of State, General Alexander Haig, announced that the United States would henceforth place priority on the fight against terrorism rather than on the struggle for human rights.

In the same breath he denounced the African liberation movements.

Later that month, South Africa launched a cross-border strike against ANC offices in Mozambique. It was followed by a series of tough and often bloody acts as South Africa employed a variety of economic and military measures to dissuade neighbouring states from offering bases to the ANC or even allowing guerrillas to pass through their territories en route to South Africa.

Destabilisation has always been a course fraught with danger. However, it looks as if certain regional realities are being accepted, which would have been vigorously disputed 10 years ago.

Firstly, South Africa has established that it had the right and the capacity to act against any security threat in the region, even if it be far beyond its borders.

Secondly, it has demonstrated that it can do so without fear of international retaliation — at least while the Reagan and Thatcher administrations are around.

Thirdly, the Frontline States are in such a tight economic squeeze that they will not embark on a collision course against South Africa by providing support to the ANC and will almost always welcome the efforts of intermediaries to normalise relations.

The Don MacHenrys, who predicted that these states would come to spurn the Americans as peacemakers, have been proved wrong. And as to Washington's relationship with Pretoria, the policy of constructive engagement seems finally to be bearing real fruits.

The key question has been whether South Africa would use destabilisation as a means towards getting the new ground rules accepted and not an end in itself.

There was also the question whether South Africa would know when to stop. There was reason for a negative assessment in the second half of 1983, when support for Unita was sharply increasing, despite Luanda's willingness to negotiate.

And it is still difficult to understand the rationale behind the recent Operation Askari — or why there was such a dangerous underestimation of the adversary's capabilities.

That South Africa is finally prepared to seek political accommodation with Mozambique and Angola shows that it is not a junta of generals calling the shots in government, but politicians.

As politicians they pride themselves on rational decision-making — as to what would serve the best white interests — and consider themselves ultimately accountable to a white electorate increasingly uneasy about the war and the Namibian burden.

On both these counts it was decided that South Africa for the time being, its regional ob-

Normalised regional relations would give South Africa the much enhanced sense of security it seeks and a stronger platform for internal reform.

As a shrewd Israeli analyst of South Africa, Mordechai Temarkn, observed: "A regional modus vivendi could serve as a model for a domestic modus vivendi — at least a temporary one — and inspire leaders from all racial communities who do not see the domestic conflict as a zero-sum game."

FIRESTONE CHIEF CALLS FOR PROFIT-SHARING WITH UNIONS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 28 Feb 84 p 8

[Text]

THE only way in which SA industry and labour alike can increase their prosperity is through communications, leading in turn to a prement to strive for greater productivity — with the sharing of additional profits between shareholders and workers as the incentive.

This was stated by the chief executive of Firestone SA, Peter Morum, in a speech to the Port Elizabeth branch of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants.

Local industries, including the branches of international companies were pricing themselves out of business with the rapid wage demands demanded by labour unions he said.

They were becoming totally uncompetitive with the Far East, where labour was cheap, plentiful and disciplined.

If SA was to survive and grow as an industrial country, it had to export, since the local market was too small to sustain the employment levels needed here. But to export, it had to be competitive on price — which was not possible with high wages and low productivity.

It was imperative for the unions to understand this, Morum said.

Gainsharing

However, a way in which productivity could be improved was gainsharing, which he described as a plan in which productivity improvements were measured against norms based on past performance.

"Once these levels are agreed on by both management and the unions, any gains are split between the company and the plant people, normally down the middle," he said.

This sounded simple, but tremendous effort and very delicate negotiations were required to establish the system.

The solution, Morum said, lay in communication between management and labour, and the development of trust within each company.

In his opinion, it was essential for the chief executive to involve himself completely in this process.

Morum criticised the first resort of many chief executives, which was to call in the police when disagreement arose. Such precipitate action froze people into positions from which it was impossible to negotiate, he said.

He also took issue with the tax authorities for the way in which they were changing the tax structure for Black people but leaving it largely to employers to explain to them why this was being done.

As with the pensions plan which had had to be dropped through lack of communication, this proposed change also left a fertile field for the agitators to till. He hoped that the lesson of experience would be learned, namely that "after making a mistake twice, you don't do it a third time."

"We must concern ourselves with the future with the rising expectations of people, with the rising costs of doing business in our country, and the vital necessity for communicating change within the country and within our business. When mentioning the lat-

ter point we are all aware of the results of the abortive attempt by the Government to introduce the proposed preservation of pensions amendment to the Pensions Act. Now this was unquestionably an excellent proposal, and one which would have equally benefited both the pensioner and the taxpayer.

However, it had to be shelved because the Government and, to some extent, industry decided that an indepth education programme was not necessary.

Agitation

The agitators had no such inhibition, they spread the word with tremendous speed throughout this area and finally the country. The legislation was designed to take the workers' money and give it to the Government to be used in ensuring the privileged position of the Whites and the subservient situation of the Blacks.

Industry attempted to counter this approach by meetings with their workforces. However, this was about as much use as throwing a drowning man both ends of the rope.

We have a situation where illiteracy is the main ingredient — news was disseminated by word of mouth in buses, at work, in meetings and at home.

We can print all the explanations we like but, once the word has been spread by the "talkers", it is a fait accompli and we are heading for a confrontation.

I must make mention of the change to the way in which Black people pay their taxes. Nobody questions the fact that they come in on exactly the same basis as all other people in the Republic.

However, little or no effort is made to explain to the people affected why this is being done. It is simply left to employers to do this and because women and young men are going to pay a higher level of tax, this is extremely fertile ground for the agitators to till.

Industry here is doing all it can with regard to educating people about these changes but I wonder whether we have enough time.



Approach

I wonder, as well, if the approach and explanations will be the same throughout industry. It is essential that the approach we use is identical to alleviate confusion and also to ensure that the agitators have as little opportunity as possible to create problems for us.

We in Port Elizabeth have proved to be right in the forefront of Black labour aspirations. We were first to feel the cold winds of the Black worker community's antipathy to the proposed pension legislation.

Why was this the case? In the first instance we have a concentration of

subsidiaries of high profile trans-national companies, with concentrated labour forces, and any labour-connected incidents are front page news here and overseas, thus publicity is assured. In our labour related issues, publicity is a prerequisite for obvious reasons.

In the second instance we have a homogeneous workforce living in close proximity to the workplace, speaking a single language, and having an innate depth of political awareness. The Xhosa has been exposed to the benefits of higher education for a longer period than any other tribe in Africa and this, combined with his inborn understanding of politics, gives him a very astute approach to the resolution of his problems, as he sees them.

In the third instance the transnational companies follow enlightened labour practices, which some SA companies feel to be too liberal, but which are inevitable for our entire industrial society. These practices unquestionably raise expectations, and in context of our society, cause tremendous frustration.

Remember, in spite of the political overtones, we are still in a position of labour union evolution very similar to the US in the early thirties. However, there is one big difference

in that we are moving at a faster pace and our friends and detractors alike want us to move even faster.

We are trying to educate, train, make up for our past indiscretions, salve America's conscience and run an industrial undertaking, all at the same time. The result has been fairly chaotic in that we are pricing ourselves out of business.

We have moved wages so rapidly, in order to meet labour union demands, that our industries are rapidly becoming totally uncompetitive with similar industries in the Far East, where labour is cheap, plentiful and disciplined.

The issues raised by labour unions in the East Cape will spread to other parts of the country and, in fact, are already evidencing themselves. However, if we are to survive and grow as an industrial country, we must export our local market is too small to sustain the employment levels we must obtain.

If we are to export we must be competitive with world commodity prices. We already have the problem of economics of scale, but now we have the demands of the emerging labour unions to satisfy

It is imperative for the unions to understand that industry will be unable to satisfy their demands unless we develop an export based economy. However, this means understanding and the elimination of distrust which is going to take time, and we must move quickly — a classic chicken and egg situation.

The solution is to communicate and develop trust within each company. This can be done and we are busy doing it now. It is a difficult route but one we must take; the unions must understand we cannot compete with high wages and low productivity, but we can all prosper if we develop gainsharing plans. These do work and result in highly competitive products reaching the marketplace.

Understanding

When mentioning gainsharing this is basically a plan that involves productivity improvements against certain measured norms based on past performance. Once these levels are agreed by both management and the unions, any gains are split on whatever basis has been agreed between the company and the people, but it is normally down the middle. ♪

SUPPORT FOR IRANIAN ISLAMIC REVOLUTION VOICED

Cape Town MUSLIM NEWS in English 24 Feb 84 p 20

[Editorial: "The Gentle Breeze"]

[Text]

chastisements:

*For thy Lord is (as a
Guardian) on a watch-tower
Sura Fajr: 1-14*

The above verses formed the theme for the ceremonies marking the 5th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and aptly describe Iran's transformation.

A recent visit to Iran by MUSLIM NEWS illustrated vividly how Allah's Light has transformed this country — once in the depths of degradation under the arrogant Shah Pahlavi (a modern-day Pharaoh) — into a champion for the cause of the oppressed the world over.

The Ulema and the committed masses in Iran have sought guidance only from Allah and the Sunnah of the beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and their achievements after five years bear testimony to this fact.

The 'lofty pillars' of the disgraced Shah and his 'transgressions in the land' have given way to a better quality of life for the people of Iran. The people, especially in the villages totally neglected by the Shah, have been assisted by revolutionary organisations such as the

*By the Break of Day;
By the Nights twice five;
By the Even and Odd
(contrasted);
And by the Night when it
passes away;-
Is there (not) in these an
adjuration (or evidence) for
those who understand?
Seest thou not how thy Lord
dealt with the 'Ad (people),-
Of the (city of) Iram, with
lofty pillars,
The like of which were not
produced in (all) the land?
And with the Thamud
(people), who cut out (huge)
rocks in the valley?-
And with Pharaoh, Lord of
Stakes?
(All) these transgressed
beyond bounds in the lands.
And heaped therein
mischief (on mischief).
Therefore did thy Lord pour
on them a scourge of diverse*

Bunad-e-Mustadhafeen (Foundation of the Deprived) and the **Jehad-e-Sazandagi** (Reconstruction Crusade). The revolution has been defended from attacks by imperialist-backed plots (eg the Iraqi aggression) and the **Munafiqeen-e-Khalq** (MKO), who have murdered thousands of innocent civilians through bombing attacks, by the regular army, the **Baseej** (volunteer forces) and the **Sepah Pasdaran** (Revolutionary Guards Corps).

And the ideological lead is given by the combatant Ulema of Iran. In fact, the Ulema in that country are the pillars of the Islamic Revolution.

They are not the ones who believe that Islam is a sterile faith leaving politics to professional politicians and monarchs. The Ulema in Iran implement Islam as a **Deen** (a complete way of life).

In his speech to the guests attending the Ten Days of the Dawn ceremonies, the President of Iran, **Hujjatul-Islam Sayyid Ali Khamenei**, noted the reasons for the success of the Islamic Revolution. In it are lessons for us all:

- People in Iran were aware why they were fighting;

- They had Qur'anic and Islamic logic, which became clear for them after long years of training.

- The presence of the entire masses on the scene of the Revolution. The masses included children, the aged, men and women.

- The leader, **Imam Khomeini**, was decisive, popular, hopeful, informed and himself ready for martyrdom. The Imam was always present and no questions remained unanswered by him. He never hesitated and never compromised and he kept the people informed.

It was in the light of the fact that they had witnessed the truth of the above factors themselves that the guests drew up the historic document of solidarity with Iran (reproduced elsewhere in this issue).

Indeed, the success of the Islamic Revolution is so apparent to any objective visitor to Iran that he will feel duty-bound to spread its message and implement its methods.

The President of Iran sums it up: 'Our Revolution, like the gentle breeze in spring, spreads its fragrance afar, without stopping.'

ETHANOL PROJECT HIT BY CYCLONE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 2 Mar 84 p 13

[Article by Simon Willson]

[Text] SERIOUS flooding caused by the recent Cyclone Domoina has probably killed an important sugar industry project to produce and market the petroleum substitute ethanol.

The sugar mill at Umfolozi, on the Natal North Coast, had reached an advanced stage of extracting ethanol economically from its output of molasses, a heavy syrup by-product.

The floods over Natal sugar-growing areas devastated large tracts of cane plantations supplying the Umfolozi mill. Damage was so severe that the mill's production may fall beneath break-even this season.

If the mill ran into serious financial difficulties the ethanol project would probably be suspended and even scrapped.

Sugar-growers in the Umfolozi area say floods caused the Umfolozi River to burst its banks and deposit about 50-million cubic metres of sterile river sand over plantations.

In most areas the cane is beyond reclamation beneath about 4m of sand. Growers say the cost of mechanised removal would be a prohibitive R90m.

Sugar industry estimates put Umfolozi mill's cane production loss at more than 400 000 tons, which would cut the mill's annual cane production to little over 700 000 tons, well short of the 900 000 its owners say is break-even production level.

Sugar industry sources are reluctant to give details about experiments with ethanol but it is understood Umfolozi was the only mill to have planned commercially-viable production of the petrol substitute in the near future.

The mill, run by a farmer's cooperative in which all the mill's cane suppliers are shareholders, is also understood to have tied up several markets. All the ethanol produced would have been exported.

Domestic marketing of ethanol is considered by many sugar interests to be a potentially risky venture because of the duty structure on fuels.

Since the flood damage now threatens the Umfolozi mill's very existence, analysts say all progress on ethanol production and marketing will be halted and is unlikely to be resumed.

CSO: 3400/762

TUCSA THREATENS TO QUIT MANPOWER COMMISSION

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 1 Mar 84 p.1

[Article by Steven Friedman]

[Text] IN A surprise move the Trade Union Council of SA (Tucsa) has threatened to quit the National Manpower Commission--a key element in the labour reforms introduced by the Wiehahn Commission.

The NMC was set up to advise the Government on labour issues and is made up of employer, Government and union representatives and some academics. No emerging unionists have been appointed to it and Tucsa is the main union body serving on it.

In the latest edition of its journal, Labour Mirror, Tucsa says a recent meeting of its national executive was "overwhelmingly critical" of the NMC.

It said the NMC has become "irrelevant". Tucsa felt its presence on it was "lending credibility" to the NMC and thus harming Tucsa's reputation.

Its attack means the NMC is the second key body introduced after the Wiehahn reforms to come under attack recently. The industrial court has been criticised by employers and faces a curbing of its powers.

Tucsa says the NMC was supposed to be a "tripartite body" composed of unionists, employers and the Government but is "weighted" with civil servants and academics "who have no direct involvement in labour matters".

It adds that it has become "bogged down and remote" and is "churning out huge documents which mean nothing". Some academics on the NMC, Tucsa says, are serving as "surrogate representatives of emerging unions".

It says several employer members of the NMC are "known to be unhappy" with its direction.

Tucsa also attacks NMC spokesmen, including its chairman Dr Hennie Reynders, for statements they made on a current NMC probe into farm labour.

Tucsa wants the NMC to recommend minimum standards for farm workers' conditions but an NMC spokesman said recently it was not the job of the inquiry to recommend actual standards.

Labour Mirror criticises this and says that, in a letter to Tucsa's general secretary Mr Arthur Grobbelaar, Dr Reynders defended the statement.

Dr Reynders could not be reached for comment yesterday, but the director-general of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe--whose department appoints the NMC--said he had received no formal approach from Tucsa on the issue.

He was reluctant to comment as he had not studied the article and because "the NMC is an independent body and we do not intervene in its work".

Tucsa's views on the NMC's membership "might not be shared by others".

The Tucsa attack comes in the wake of suggestions that some NMC members are frustrated with its direction, arguing that it is too large and that key recommendations for reform are sometimes "sabotaged" by NMC members.

There is also hostility towards the NMC among Department of Manpower officials and some NMC members believe this has led to the commission not being consulted on recent labour legislation.

CSO: 3400/762

INCREASE IN ACID RAIN REPORTED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 1 Mar 84 p 9M

[Article by James Clarke: "'What's Eating You' Is Too-Pointed a Question"]

[Text]

This is what was revealed at a recent debate by experts on acid rain in the Transvaal:

Do we get acid rain?
Don't know.

How much sulphur gas (the major cause of acid rain) goes into the air over the Eastern Transvaal coal belt?

Probably not less than 3 000 tons a day.
Where does it come down?

Don't know.

What are the effects on human health?

Don't know.

What effect is it having on farmland and veld?

Don't know.

Vaaldam's water has three times more acid than natural water. Where is the acid coming from?

Not sure.

What would it cost to clean up 70 percent of the sulphur emission from a 3 400 MW power station?

R120 to R150 million ... R500 to R600 million.

Plants do it. Dead cats in Louis Botha Avenue do it. Rain does it. Even rocky outcrops in Benoni do it — they all give off acid.

Daily, nature pours tons of acid into the environment. But so do industries — at the rate of many thousands of tons of day in the southern half of the Transvaal.

I will never again ask somebody: "What's eating you?", not after attending the recent technical debate on acid rain at Escom's Megawatt Park.

I will admit, here and now, that the deliberations of the experts — 200 turned up for the debate which continued deep into the evening — confused me to such an extent that I walked into a

closed door on the way out. But I was comforted by the thought that I was not the only one who left there confused — not by a long chalk.

During question time an exasperated young woman scientist, Ms Margaret Bohm — an Escom researcher who had spoken at length on her job of monitoring atmospheric acid — threw up her hands and said: "We still don't know if we've got acid rain."

But the consensus was that at least 3 000 tons of acid-causing sulphur gas passes into the Transvaal atmosphere DAILY, and it must come down somewhere as acid rain or a dry acid-causing fall-out.

Minutes after Ms

Bohm had made her confession, came another. A Pretoria doctor was concerned that the high level of heart attacks among whites, and blood pressure among urban blacks, was caused by enzymal changes precipitated by environmental factors.

He wanted to know what effects our high acid fall-out had on humans. One of the panel experts said: "We don't know what effects it has on humans. We have no data."

But from all the accounts, which came in a stream of figures and graphs from atmospheric scientists, soil experts, industrial chemists, hydrol-

ogists and others, it seems we have a problem although nobody can define it.

That is more or less how Dr JG "Dick" Thompson of the Soil and Irrigation Institute (CSIR) put it. Some of our soil is so acid (the lowest pH recorded was a vinegary 3,8) he said, that it should cause plants to become toxic. But there is no evidence of it. But then, it seems, nobody is seriously checking.

Mealie farmers lime their fields to neutralise the acid. So mealies are safe to eat. But, asked Dr Thompson, almost to himself, do cattle farmers lime their land? And if they don't does it mean anything.

If the debate, organised by the National Clean Air Association (Naca) and the Coal Club, proved anything it is that we know little about what is probably the most dangerous air pollutant of all — sulphur.

Airborne sulphur creates acid in the air, in water, in the soil, in our lungs and almost anywhere you can think of. It was airborne sulphur which caused the deaths of 6 000 people in London's "killer smog" of 1952.

It is acid rain, caused by sulphur emissions

mostly from coal-burning industry which, in Europe, is being blamed for destroying forests, sterilising lakes and eating away statues and buildings.

Scientists the world over are puzzled by its sudden severity. A few claim it is an unexplained natural phenomenon. Others blame industrial pollution entirely and say that car-exhaust gases (mostly nitrogen oxide) add to the problem.

What was refreshing at the Naca/Coal Club meeting was that the scientists there, and many were from Escom and the CSIR, were frank and open about what they knew and did not know. As one said to me afterwards: "It was an eye-opener".

An Escom atmospheric scientist, Mr Roland von Goch, said that Escom itself, if all its power stations were going full bore (an unlikely event because there are always generators undergoing maintenance work) would be pumping 5 000 tons of sulphur a day into the Transvaal air. He guessed that they would be emitting about 3 000 tons a day on average. A member of the audience queried the figures, saying he felt they were far

too high. Mr von Goch did not think so.

Sasol at Secunda is releasing 300 tons a day but its emission includes the notoriously smelly H₂S (hydrogen sulphide) which is not present in Escom's emissions. Another 350 tons of sulphur gases a day come from the burning coal-waste heaps which abound in the Eastern Transvaal — but nobody knew whether these contained H₂S because their gases have never been tested for it.

The coal dumps discharge sulphur gas at almost ground level — but there is no data on how this 130 000 tons a year, which must surely contaminate the veld over tens of thousands of square kilometres, affects the natural system.

Escom and Sasol's emissions are discharged through some of the highest chimney stacks on earth and, usually, this million or so tons a year is dispersed over a wide area — perhaps thousands of kilometres from source, said Mr von Goch.

But under certain weather conditions a lot of it would come down over the Eastern Transvaal itself. How much is not known.

At one stage a hydrol-

ogist in the audience gave some quite dismaying figures about the acidity of Vaaldam's water. The acidity is about treble the natural level. It seems that by 1991 the amount could be eight times the natural load. Is the acidity coming from air pollution (ie acid rain from our sulphur-laden sky) or is it being leached from gold-mine dumps in the Eastern Transvaal? The ques-

tion was unresolved.

On the subject of acid from gold-mine dumps it was mentioned that there are 8 000 sq km of these smeared across the southern half of the Transvaal and that they are heavily impregnated with pyrites which breaks down into sulphuric acid. Indeed, Ergo which is re-refining the dumps to extract gold and other metals, is processing 60 000 tons of

sand a day — and this would contain 1 500 tons of pyrites whose acidity would be passed into the environment. Somebody said that 60 percent of Ergo's sulphur goes up its stacks and into the atmosphere.

The question was asked as to why acid rain had caused such obvious effects in West Germany and not here. A third of West Germany's trees are dying or showing

signs of being poisoned by acid rain, according to official sources. Maybe, it was suggested, Germany's problem is because for 50 or 60 years the stuff has been raining down without anybody realising how it was building up and without anybody hitting it with lime (the West German forestry service now pumps lime into its forests using huge and high-velocity nozzles).

Indeed, many countries in Europe and North America report quite appalling environmental damage from acid fallout. An answer was suggested at the meeting: maybe it is because Transvaal farmers have been using lime all the time they have been farming — because the soil has always been on the acid side.

Perhaps the most difficult problem is to know

what the natural acidity levels of the veld should be.

If one were to sum up the meeting its message was that we simply MUST have an acid-rain problem.

What if the Government were to follow other Western governments, and order 70 percent of sulphur to be removed from industrial fumes? Mr von Goch said that it would cost about

R550 million for each giant power station. Somebody said that he felt it would cost "only" about R135 million. But even with a discount as attractive as that the problem will cost a couple of billion rands.

It raises the question — which, for the time being will go unanswered like so many other questions that day: what will be the price of doing nothing?

CSO: 3400/762

SHAKEOUT LOOMS IN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 1 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by John Mulcahy]

[Text]

THE embattled South African fertiliser industry is facing an even more torrid time than in 1983 and several producers will have to merge or go to the wall.

Mr Dave Marlow, managing director of Sentrachem, said the maize harvest had been written off three weeks ago, and if the winter wheat areas in the Transvaal did not get at least 150mm of rain by the end of April, the wheat crop was also doomed.

Paradoxically, there have never before been as many fertiliser producers in the market, and the competition has intensified with the entry of Sasol into the market and the Triomf/AECI split, which has brought AECI into the fray as a separate entity.

Mr Johan van der Walt, Sentrachem's general manager, said the South African market could support two, or a maximum of three producers, and the next 12 to 18 months would see a significant shakeout.

There are now six producers: Triomf, Fedmis (Sentrachem), Bonus (Hanhill), Omnia, AECI and Sasol.

While most participants agree there is a great deal of discussion taking place, no-one is prepared to concede defeat or even to submit to rationalisation at this stage.

An obvious form of rationalisation would be a trade-off similar to the newsprint industry.

Sappi and Mondi have an agreement to supply the markets closest to their plants, thereby saving on transport costs.

Depending on how far such an agreement went, it could be construed as a cartel arrangement, and attract the distaste of the farmers, but the current degree of intensity in competition among the producers will probably preclude such a close alliance.

But the producers seem as close to rationalisation now as the Lebanon is to peace, and all seem confident of escaping the bloodletting that will undoubtedly come if the rain stays away.

AECI and Triomf have both professed their satisfaction at the split, and expect great things for the future. Sasol as a new producer clearly has no intention of withdrawing from the market. Omnia has recently completed an expansion phase, and Fedmis has definite intentions of being one of the survivors.

That leaves Bonus, and with its control situation unresolved there is no telling what its new owners might have in mind for the fertiliser market.

The facts, however, point to a dramatic restructuring in the industry. Production capacity now stands at about 5.2-million tons, and the total market this year is likely to be less than 2-million tons.

The first casualty has already been identified,

but its position has yet to be resolved. Abercom has an option to buy Hanhill Investments, but there is no certainty the deal will be consummated.

Meanwhile, industry estimates put Hanhill's fertiliser stocks at 50 000 tons, and the total surplus stock looking for a home at about 300 000 tons, which includes some of the urea the Maize Board received after its curious maize importing arrangement last year.

The results so far available for the nation's fertiliser producers provide an indication of how serious the problem has been.

Triomf, which does not consolidate its operating company, Triomf Fertilizer (Pty), seems to have lost at least R17m last year, judging by the provision in AECT's income statement of an R8,5m loss attributable to associates.

It is known that none of AECT's other equity-accounted associates lost money last year, so the R8,5m is all related to its share of Triomf's loss.

The one silver lining, as always, is faith in the weather, and the view that the rains must come, if not this year, then definitely in 1985.

The farmers will be forced to plant extensively in an effort to recoup some of the huge losses incurred during the drought years, and demand for fertiliser products will take off.

But this optimism is familiar, and it is difficult to foresee all six producers remaining in their present form by the end of 1984. Whether by merger or acquisition, someone will have to go.

CSO: 3400/762

REVOLUTIONARY HIGH STABILITY DEVICE AIDS HIGH-SPEED TRAINS

Marshalltown SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE in English Jan 84 pp 2-4

[Text] The inauguration, this month, of a high speed passenger train service between Pretoria and Johannesburg, has been made possible by the further application of South African Railways' revolutionary high stability bogie. The Metroblitz, as the train is called, is currently operating only once each way, every day, over the relatively short distance between the two cities of 69 km, now covered in 42 minutes at speeds which reach 160 km/h. The SAR intends to expand the service according to demand and, in due course, when the necessary track modifications have been made, will make high speed travel available on other routes.

The new concept in bogie design which makes these high speeds possible has been described as the most significant advance in rolling stock technology this century. The person more responsible for the breakthrough than any other is Herbert Scheffel, who has designed what most engineers had come to believe was a fundamental impossibility: a dynamically stable, self-steering bogie. Scheffel graduated from the Technical University of Darmstadt in 1953 and emigrated to this country from Germany in 1955. His brainchild first hit the headlines in November 1976 when a high speed test coach of the SAR attained a speed of 215 km/h, which was not merely a world record for narrow gauge track, but a world record for a radial axle bogie on any track.

Initially, some railway engineers were reluctant to accept Scheffel's claims for his new bogie design, though practical demonstrations soon got them to change their minds. The standard wheelset consists of two wheels with conical treads pressed onto a common axle. This arrangement is self-centring on both straight and curved track, if the wheelset is free to yaw relative to the truck frame. At speed, however, there is a tendency for oscillations to build up about the centre of the track in a lateral plane, a phenomenon known as hunting, effectively setting a limit to the operational speed of the vehicle. To some extent, this tendency can be overcome by a combination of suspension damping and rigid coupling between the axles and by using wheel treads of low conicity. Although these measures work reasonably well on straight track, they impair the natural ability of wheelsets to negotiate curves, which then has to be done by flange guidance. This, in turn, leads to wear on the wheel tread and the flange, as

well as the rail, so that, in time, the vehicle has to be withdrawn from service and the wheelreads remachined to restore their optimum profile. From an economic point of view, this is major problem. It is interesting to note, for example, that this problem has plagued the operation of Japan's bullet trains from their inception.

Ideally, one wants an arrangement where the axles are aligned radially on a curve, but in such a way that hunting is kept to a minimum. This was the design challenge that Scheffel was set in the 1960s, initially in connection with drawing up the specifications for the next generation of the Blue Train. Later, Scheffel concluded that the problem had to be tackled from first principles, originally as a mathematical analysis, but even when the theory had been developed, in 1970, Scheffel admits that the 'physical implications were initially blurred'. The first experimental bogie was tested in 1972 and the curving principle was quickly proved.

When properly tuned the bogie displays high hunting stability up to high speeds, and also offers other benefits such as improved weight distribution over the bogie frame. Furthermore, the absence of flange contact and sliding when negotiating corners reduces the load on the locomotive, with consequent economy of operation.

The concept has universal application and can be used on track of any gauge, with goods wagons or passenger coaches. The Scheffel bogie went into full-scale production in 1976 and was first used in large numbers on the wagons which take iron ore from Sishen to Saldanha. The perfect rolling characteristics of the bogie on both straight and curved track means that wheel wear is extremely small. In the past, the maintenance of rolling stock and rails has been one of the largest items of expense to the SAR. About 42 000 Scheffel bogies are now in use.

The introduction of the Metroblitz is likely to herald a new era of commuting by train and opens up the possibility that people living in even distant country areas would be able to travel quickly and efficiently to their places of work in the cities.

CSO: 3400/729

USE OF TRANSPONDERS AT RICHARDS BAY REPORTED

Johannesburg INDUSTRIAL WEEK in English 28 Feb 84 p 4

[Text]

SIX thousand coal trucks on the Richards Bay line are to be electronically tagged with transponders from Electromatic. The Pietermaritzburg company will also supply the detectors, sensors, micro-processors and communication modules for an automatic railcar identification system.

Electromatic's "Track" range of equipment will be used to identify tagged trucks, count those without transponders, and record the location, time, date and direction of travel. The data will be fed into SA Transport Service's central computing facility to provide an automatic monitoring system. Installation and link-up will be done by Telkor, another local company.

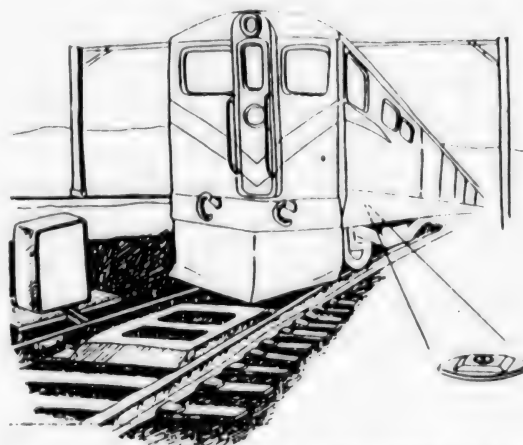
"This contract is for Phase One of Sats' Automatic Car Identification system," explained Mike Glynne-Jones, head of engineering at Electromatic. "The concept may later be extended to all rail vehicles which number approximately 200 000, with data collection occurring at more than 100 reader stations nation-wide.

"The coal export railway from Ermelo to the coast will provide an ideal proving ground for the monitoring equipment. It is a 25kW line, alternating current, compared with the standard 3kV, dc system. The transponders, their inductive loops and the track-side electronics have all been designed to function in this extreme electrical environment."

The passive transponders, which are completely weatherproof and maintenance-free, will be bolted to the underside of 6000 coal trucks. They will transmit a 12-digit code when energised by inductive loops set between the rails at each of seven reader stations.

The loops normally run in a power-saving mode, switching to full current only when a truck is detected. The energising and transmission cycle is completed in less than 10 milliseconds: this means that every truck in a train can be recorded, no matter how fast it is moving.

The equipment is suitable for the monitoring of any moving objects on defined routes, not only rail vehicles. Alan Fillett, Electromatic's MD, believes that systems for road transport and materials-handling applications will be installed before long.



The "Track" system antenna is shown between the tracks, the transponder is attached to the underside of the locomotive. The axle counter is visible on the rail. The trackside reader is housed in the cabinet.

SPONGE IRON PLANT INSTALLED IN GERMISTON

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 1 Mar 84 p 25

[Text] A Germiston steel company has installed a sponge iron plant of unique design to supplement scrap in its steel making process.

The R33-million plant at Scaw Metals produces sponge iron from iron ore and is considered to be the most successful plant of its kind yet designed. It is also the cleanest commercially operating sponge iron plant in the world today.

Steel scrap is today the cheapest raw material for steel production in electric arc furnaces, but, due to periodic shortages of scrap and/or quality considerations, sponge iron is being considered with increasing frequency as a supplement.

Scaw sent South African ore and coal and a team of technicians to the United States for production condition tests to be carried out at the Direct Reduction Corporation (DRC) plant in Knoxville, Tennessee, before the decision was made to erect the plant, which has a rated capacity of 75 000 tons a year, in Wadeville.

Davy-McKee of Stockton, in Britain, who were awarded the major contract, and DRC of the USA, completed construction in two years. The new plant has now been in continuous operation since last July, a period unheard of in earlier plant design.

The new plant at Scaw Metals will meet demand for the immediate future, but layout of the plant is such that all product input and product output circuits are designed to handle double the capacity should it become necessary for a second kiln to be installed.

In the depressed economic conditions being experienced there is an adequate supply of scrap, but demand is expected to increase when conditions begin to improve, and will probably outstrip availability.

CSO: 3400/742

MONITORING GROUPS HOLD KEY TO SUCCESS

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Peter Sullivan]

[Text]

There is a diplomatic excitement pervading the air of Southern Africa, an excitement over the fact that things are not only being talked about but are actually getting off the ground.

If there is a single new idea which has facilitated this, it is the concept of a Joint Monitoring Commission or JMC.

Of course the idea itself is not new in diplomacy. Even in the old United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 there was a monitoring commission, but it was labelled the UN Transition Assistance Group, or Untag.

Its responsibilities were similar to those entrusted to the JMCs which will monitor the accords worked out between South Africa and Mozambique on the one hand and South Africa, Angola and the United States on the other.

Diplomats and politicians are ecstatic about the idea of allocating responsibility for settling disputes to these JMCs. Reasons are many and varied.

The commission already operating in southern Angola is headed by a group of "executives," a sort of board of directors who direct the activities of forces under their control.

The force itself is made up of three companies from Angola and three from South Africa, giving a task force of six times 150, a total of 900. Ironically, the men who make up the force were fighting each other earlier this year, when South

Africa flattened the town of Cuvelai in Operation Askari.

Cuvelai was where the JMC had its first meeting in Angola, technically its second meeting overall because the executives on the commission had already met in Lusaka when the accord was thrashed out.

This JMC is responsible for monitoring the cessation of hostile acts by all parties; surveillance of the territory; monitoring infiltration of other forces; investigating complaints and trying to adjudicate.

All of this seems very sensible, but the real brilliance lies in the ability of the JMC to absorb flak without endangering the accord by forcing governments to take up public postures.

Staffed by bureaucrats, technocrats, diplomats, soldiers and policemen, it can sort out trouble on a fairly ad hoc basis without the delays or publicity attached to referring things to a government. Foreign Minister or Prime Minister and Cabinet.

While the JMC is watched by the Press, it does not have the high profile of a politician and has no duty to comment publicly on issues affecting security.

If all goes according to plan, it will do its work without fanfare, investigating each complaint and deciding on action or reaction to suit each occasion.

All the members of the commission have a vested interest in making sure it works. All sit together and know all the problems intimate-

ly. Explanations of what everybody suspects about everybody else and what incidents have happened in the past need not be aired each time it is called upon to make a decision.

Statements by the principal governments involved do not have to be countered or supported — that can be left to the politicians while the JMC beavers away.

Monitoring teams are sent by the JMC executive to investigate incidents, but the teams are composed of equal numbers of Angolan troops and South African troops, so their report is likely to be unanimous rather than divided.

The two sides get to know each other in an everyday working capacity; they start to build up a spirit of unity despite having fought each other only two months ago.

Once the non-aggression treaty with Mozambique is signed and sealed, a joint monitoring commission will start operating there as well. It will settle disputes, handle negotiations, channel aid and pinpoint possible areas of conflict. If conflicts do occur this JMC will be able to refer to the treaty in existence as its guide, instead of referring to the two governments for advice.

Again, its activities are likely to be less public than those handled by politicians, for politicians need publicity for their views in order to retain their constituencies.

This is the theory behind the idea of the JMCs. Whether they will work remains to be seen, but if euphoria is a fuel which can give good mileage, there is plenty of it available from South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs for the two peace wagons sent up north.

CSO: 3400/762

MAIZE IMPORTS POSE HANDLING PROBLEMS

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Mar 84 p 20

[Article by Simon Willson]

[Text]

AFRICAN states using South Africa for their maize imports will have to stand in line as ports try to cope with escalating domestic needs.

This was the conclusion reached at yesterday's talks in Johannesburg between Sats and the Maize Board when the daunting logistics of this year's giant maize import requirement were raised.

Officials co-ordinating the operation were told the total requirement needed to meet domestic consumption was 4,2-million tons.

This alone would keep South Africa's own dockside offloading facilities at close to full stretch before any tonnage for other countries was included.

The 6,5-million tons of expected South African consumption will only be partially offset by the drought-hit crop, leaving a 4,2m-ton shortfall to be met by imports.

While Sats officials expect to be able to handle this import requirement, it is not yet committing itself on its ability to handle the import requirements of neighbouring countries.

In recent years Zimbabwe, Zambia and Zaire have all used South African ports to land their maize imports because facilities at Maputo in Mozambique and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania are too inefficient to handle them.

Conditions at Maputo and Dar es Salaam have, if anything, worsened in the past 12 months, leaving the three land-locked importing countries more dependent than ever on East London, Cape Town and Durban.

"We don't know for sure yet how much maize the neighbouring countries are going to want to import through South Africa," Mr Jan Mors, assistant director of operations for SA Harbours, said yesterday.

"We are going to try and accommodate their requirements as much as possible through East London, but the size of the traffic

is still uncertain."

Parties to the talks concluded South Africa's ports would have to handle 350 000 tons of maize a month starting on May 1.

This monthly total would be shared out between Durban, which would take 150 000 tons a month; East London, which would handle 100 000 tons and Cape Town, which would also take 100 000 tons.

Zimbabwe's requirement this year has been estimated at about 500 000 tons. Given that the ports will be operating at close to full stretch to deal with almost double last year's drought-related maize imports, Zimbabwe's requirement could be difficult to meet.

The situation for South Africa's three land-locked northern neighbours could be even worse if Zambia and Zaire also chime in with six-digit import requirements.

Sats will try to route all maize destined for neighbouring countries through East London because the port has large amounts of rolling stock.

CSO: 3400/762

INCREASED STEAM COAL EXPORTS ANTICIPATED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Mar 84 p 4

[Article by Adam Payne]

[Text]

UNCERTAINTY over Middle East oil supplies, apart from prodding the gold price, has brought background good cheer to the coal industry, about which so much gloom has recently been expressed.

Bull points for coal — the shares of which moved up steadily last week on the JSE — are that steam coal exports, which totalled 24m tons last year, are expected to be 30m tons this year — a rise of 25%.

The price received in the region of \$30 a ton FOB Richards Bay will be low and some mines selling below \$30 are likely to show unit losses if capex costs are accounted for.

But the main thing is that South Africa is establishing itself as the world's leading international steam coal exporter with Australia and the US second and third. When the upturn occurs, South Africa will be ready to supply greater tonnages, reaping better profits.

Coal exporting is a cyclical

business and an upturn is inevitable. This is forecast to take place by 1987 with world trade of sea-borne steam coal increasing from last year's 87m tons to 115m tons. As with gold and other commodities, sudden and unexpected changes could stimulate or overturn the market.

Richards Bay exports are expected to build up to 48m tons by 1987. However, if the market warrants it, Phase 3 of Richards Bay expansion could be expanded to 66m tons by 1987.

Some mines are still making reasonable profits at \$30 a ton FOB Richards Bay and the multi-product mines, supplying Escom or Iscor and taking off the cream for exports, are believed to make profit even below \$30 a ton, I am told.

"Some of the small independent mines, given quotas under the next phase of Richards Bay export, may pull out," a coal exporter told me.

"The big exporters will stay with it so as to be in the marketplace when the upturn takes place.

"When that occurs, we will not see the same prices as in 1981

when, during the Polish crisis, they went up to \$75 a ton CIF Europe, but I believe we will see \$55 to \$60 CIF Europe by 1990," he said.

There could be changes to affect the whole energy pattern. Both Europe and the Far East aim to displace oil as much as possible, using coal for power generation and industry.

The Far East is the greatest growth area for South African exports from a low base. The volume increase will be greater in Europe.

Far Eastern countries took 9.9m tons of South African coal last year, including low ash blend coking coal and anthracite, and this total is expected to rise between 3% and 6% to between 13m and 16m tons this year.

International steam coal trade totalled 86m tons last year and this year it is expected to rise 16% to 100m or 101m tons. By 1990 it is conservatively estimated it will be 150m tons.

South Africa exported a total of 28.2m tons of coal last year through Richards Bay, of which 24m tons was steam coal.

BRIEFS

SADF MEN KILLED--THE ASSEMBLY--Over the past four years 758 members of the South African Defence Force have been killed in action and training exercises. This was revealed in Parliament yesterday by the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, who was replying to questions asked by the Progressive Federal Party's defence spokesman, Mr Philip Myburgh. General Malan said 181 soldiers were killed in 1980, 187 in 1981; 244 in 1982 and 146 last year. General Malan declined to give the figures for the number wounded "because some wounds are slight, such as light bullet or shrapnel wounds, and this would give a totally distorted view". General Malan said he was, however, prepared to give the figures to Mr Myburgh in confidence. Replying to another question, General Malan said 2 021 foreign nationals had registered for national service last year. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 1 Mar 84 p 4]

UNEMPLOYMENT RIFE--THOUSANDS of blacks are being thrown out of work in the drought-ravaged areas of the western Transvaal and north western Free State, according to the National Maize Producers Organisation (Nampo). The general manager of Nampo, Dr Pieter Gous, said yesterday the problem was critical and would spill over into the major urban areas. "Unable to find work on the farms, labourers will drift towards the towns seeking employment. Its going to develop into a sociological problem of frightening dimensions." Dr Gous said there was no work on the farms. Farmers had run out of capital for development projects--R1 800-million was invested in the 1983-84 maize crop, 75% of which was borrowed money. Total farms debts were estimated at a huge R7 500-million and interest payments alone had soared to more than \$1 000-million. Dr Gous said at a crisis meeting of Free State, western and northern Transvaal farmers in Lichtenburg this week grave concern was expressed that the platteland face economic collapse. "Aid on a massive scale will be needed to support the farming community and avoid disastrous food shortages." However, he said, unemployment on the platteland was the most immediate and urgent problem. Where until the drought struck, blacks with heavy vehicle driving licences were in great demand, there were now five or six applicants for each job offered. "And they are prepared to work for less than half of what the going rate actually is," he added. Labourers were heading for the large industrial areas to seek "survival" jobs. "The situation for whites on the platteland is grave, but for blacks it is a disaster." The number of white farmers abandoning their farms was rising sharply, he said. Many were without resources and were prepared to accept any job available in an effort to survive. "There is no doubt in our minds that the situation is more distressing than

during the great depression of the 30s," Dr Gous said. [By Gerald Reilly]
[Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 3 Mar 84 p 5]

RAIL CROSSING SWITCHBLADES IMPROVED--WITH the present need for mines to reduce operating costs via increased efficiency, great emphasis is being placed on the increasing of axle loads and the decrease in average face to skip times. As a result, pressure is being exerted to upgrade designs of underground rail systems, of which switches form an integral part. The traditional methods of manufacturing crossings and switchblades by means of flame-cutting has become unacceptable to major mining houses, due to the high incidence of service breakages, giving rise to expensive (both time and equipment replacement) derailments. These breakages are a direct result of embrittlement of the rail caused by the flame-cutting process. Technology in this field is now following that used in mainline points and crossings manufacture, where only machined components are used, which alleviate this brittle problem. Racec Industries, manufacturer of mainline and private siding points and crossings, have applied the technique of machining components to mining switches with great success. Their conventional double tongue or single tongue (Australian type), are being supplied to a number of clients specifications. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Feb 84 p 7]

CISKEI POLICE OFFICERS PROMOTED--BISHO--President Lennox Sebe announced the promotion of 50 police officers to higher ranks yesterday. He said the occasion was the rebirth of the Ciskei Police, which had been ruined by selfish narrow-minded and ambitious actions. He said the promotions were recommended by the Commissioner of Police, Brig Lulama Madola, and his committee. Recommending the promotion of Brigadier Madolo to major-general, the Minister of Justice, Mr Macebo Takane, said General Madolo had successfully steered the "police ship" through the July and August troubled waters and came out victorious. President Sebe said the promotions were effective from March 1 except for the promotions of the head of the Security Police, Col Z. Makuzeni, and Col Jimmy Lawana, who have been promoted to brigadiers with effect from April 1. Among those elevated from major to lieutenant-colonel are Major Kwane Sebe, 26, President Sebe's elder son. The Ciskei police press liaison officer, Major G. A. Ngaki, has also been promoted to lieutenant-colonel.--DDR [Text] [East London DAILY DISPATCH in English 29 Feb 84 p 3]

STATE CASHES IN ON OIL--THE R550-million of crude oil to be drawn from strategic stocks will be sold to refineries at prevailing market prices. This could result in a stock profit of hundreds of millions of rands for the State. A Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs spokesman told Business Times this week that although details had not been finally worked out with the oil companies, the oil would go at current prices and not at cost. Because oil bought up to 15 years ago was cheap, enormous profits were in prospect. The department spokesman said the large profit was justified because holding stocks for years had proved extremely expensive. The profit would facilitate future stockpiling. Some oil industry watchers were hoping that refineries would get the oil at cost and that they would be the beneficiaries. The rand has depreciated 11,7% against the dollar in the past year, and spot oil prices have risen off the 1983 low of \$28 a barrel by 1% in the past year. The price at which SA buys oil is not known, but as the Minister of Energy

Affairs said this week, in rand terms it is up appreciably. Economists have inferred that the impending stock profit helped to avert a petrol price increase. The 1,5c a litre increase in fuel prices inland is an increase in transport fees to help a beleaguered Sats. Economists praised the drawing down of oil stocks and said it had several benefits. First, fuel prices and inflation were held back. Second, the balance of payments was protected from another knock in the wake of a depressed gold price and on the even of large maize imports. Oil today, they said, was more readily available and less likely to soar in price. If the gold price rose and the dollar declined, the rand should strengthen, making it easier to top up the stockpile. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 4 Mar 84 p 1]

MISSILE RANGE LIFT-OFF--THE ASSEMBLY--Construction work on the proposed missile testing range on the southern Cape coast would start during the 1984/1985 financial year, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said. Replying to Mr Roger Hulley (PFP, Constantia), General Malan said that until the purchase of properties had been finalised he could not say when the surveys, planning and design of the terrain and construction work on the range would commence.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Mar 84 p 4]

NEW CISKEI SECURITY CHIEF--BISHO--Colonel Fumbalele Zozi has been appointed head of the Ciskei Security Police in the place of Colonel Zebulon Makuzeni. This was confirmed by the Commissioner of Police, Major General Lulama Madolo, yesterday. He said Colonel Makuzeni had been transferred to the inspectorate section with effect from yesterday. A former Boss agent, Colonel Makuzeni was appointed chief of the Security Police in July last year when President Lennox Sebe restructured the then Department of State Security. Colonel Zozi joined the police force in 1961. He has worked at various police stations throughout South Africa. He was transferred to Mdantsane in 1971. A former member of the disbanded Ciskei Central Intelligence Service, he is an explosives expert.--DDR. [Text] [East London DAILY DISPATCH in English 2 Mar 84 p 1]

NEW INDIAN TOWNSHIP--The establishment of the new Indian township, Marlborough Gardens, outside Sandton, can be seen as the culmination of a 25-year dream and the result of a 10-year struggle for a better place in the sun for the Indian community. This was said by Mr Yakoob Mahomed Makda, chairman of the Indian Consultative Committee at its inaugural meeting last night. The need to establish the township was first recognised in 1974, when many Indians were forced to move out of Wynberg as the area was becoming increasingly industrialised. As a result of this forced move, many Indians faced a housing shortage. Some were forced to live in garages and servant's quarters in Indian areas while others found accommodation in the White areas of Mayfair and central Johannesburg. Marlborough Gardens was officially declared an Indian township late last year and building is to begin soon. Mr Makda dedicated himself and the rest of the Committee to the community affairs of the new township. He stressed the need for South Africans to realise that the individuality of each group had to be recognised. Different groups could not be joined together under a uniform culture, he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 1 Mar 84 p 14]

REMOVAL PETITIONS--Cape Town.--The Government is pressing ahead with plans to move Coloured families from Lansdowne but the Minister of Community Development, Mr S F Kotze, says that the matter is being handled with the greatest circumspection. Mr Kotze was reacting to petitions from White residents of the area asking for the removals to be stopped, and criticism by the Labour Party and the Progressive Party. He said Coloured families were not summarily being thrown out of Lansdowne. Removals took place only after thorough consultation and only if alternative accommodation was already available. Mr Kotze said he had investigated the possibility of rezoning part of the area as Coloured again, as had been done in other areas such as Kalk Bay, Maitland, Gordon's Bay, Somerset West and Malmesbury. The remaining families were, however, too few and too scattered for this to be considered in the case of Lansdowne. Declaring a larger area as Coloured would in turn involve the sensitive issue of moving a large number of White families. Every effort would be made to move the remaining Coloured families with the minimum of disruption, but they had to realise they would have to leave.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 5 Mar 84 p 11]

MOTOR INDUSTRY--Port Elizabeth.--A compulsory increase in the local content of South African motor vehicles would amount to economic suicide, says Mr Lou Wilking, managing director of General Motors in South Africa. Addressing a seminar of the Midlands Chamber of Industries in Port Elizabeth yesterday, Mr Wilking, who is also chairman of the car section of the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers, said the Government was to reconsider the local content programme four to five years after the introduction of phase 5 at the beginning of 1980. It was therefore necessary to examine the programme from a cost justification point of view. Research showed that it would cost between R300 and R750 per vehicle to raise the local content from the phase 5 limit of 66 percent to 75 percent. Vehicles in the small to medium class, which represented the largest portion of the market, were consequently uneconomic to manufacture if the local content was set above 66 percent. Luxury cars, which were made on a smaller scale, would be even more uneconomic.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 1 Mar 84 p 29]

UNEMPLOYED BLACKS--The Government has launched a multi-million rand job relief scheme to unemployed blacks similar to the one used to give jobs to destitute whites during the depression years. Announcing the scheme in Cape Town yesterday, Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Co-operation and Development said 50 101 jobs had already been created. The Government had been forced to take the action because of the results of the drought ravaging South Africa. "The drought is causing tremendous problems and there is a constant movement of people trying to find employment in other areas. Without jobs they have no food." The scheme was in two parts. One which had created 22 550 jobs was to give assistance to black agriculture while the second dealt with the provision of jobs for people with no source of income. In this section, 27 542 jobs had been created. The Government was attempting to supply jobs to people who could find no employment and restricting the scheme to one bread winner in every family. A basic wage of R2,50 a day was being paid, taking into account wages being paid in a particular district. Most of the jobs are involved with road construction and repairs, forestry, soil conservation, the removal of noxious weeds and plants and smaller construction projects such as the building of pit latrines. [Text] [Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 2 Mar 84 p 2]

FINANCE MINISTER ON COUNTRY'S 'DIFFICULT' ECONOMIC SITUATION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] MBABANE. — Swaziland's Minister of Finance, Dr Sishayi Nxumalo, said that in economic terms, Swaziland was presently undergoing one of the most difficult periods in its history.

Presenting his budget speech in the House of Assembly at the weekend, the Minister said "we are suffering not only the effects of the world-wide recession, but also economic stagnation, the effects of the drought and now the devastating damage caused by the recent cyclone."

He said it was clear that the enormous costs they had been faced with could not be borne in one year's budget.

There would have to be considerable re-allocation of priorities, delay in some programmes and

additional spending for reconstruction over at least the next two years.

These kinds of costs could not be met purely from local resources and Swaziland would have to borrow from overseas, direct some of the currently aid-funded programmes to reconstruction work and obtain additional overseas grant funds.

In a strongly worded criticism of the administration of various ministries with regard to financial control, Dr Nxumalo said many departmental heads in Government appeared to have lost

respect for the authorisation of the house to incur expenditure.

Dr Nxumalo said: "I would like to put it on record that any principal secretary failing to observe the correct procedures for control of funds in the current financial year 1984/1985 will be considered for surcharge under the Finance Act."

The minister told the house that because many of the problems of financial control had arisen because of the lack of expertise in the accounting cadre in the Treasury Department, the European Economic Community, the International Monetary Fund and the British and West German Governments had

now agreed to provide assistance in the form of accounting and budget personnel.

The minister said Swaziland's total estimated revenue for the 1984/1985 financial year was R208,78-million, an increase of 13,7 percent on the 1983/1984 forecast.

The major area where revenue was expected to increase was in the expected yield in the first year of the introduction of sales tax in Swaziland which would bring in an estimated R10-million.

There will also be increase in income taxes on companies and individuals and an increase in receipts from the customs unions revenue pool.--

Sapa.

CSO: 3400/726

NATION OFFERS ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO MOZAMBIQUE DISASTER VICTIMS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Text]

Maputo, Wednesday.
TANZANIA has offered Mozambique an additional 100,000 dollars (1,200,000/-) to assist the victims of the cyclone and floods that hit southern Mozambique at the end of January and beginning of February, this year, the Mozambique Information Agency (AIM) reported.

A cheque for this amount was handed to President Samora Machel yesterday by the Tanzania Ambassador in Maputo, Ndugu Ali Said Mchumo. Tanzania had earlier given quantities of maize, beans and canned meat to be distributed to the flood victims.

President Samora Machel was visibly moved by this gesture of Tanzania solidarity, and was silent for several moments after receiving the cheque.

"President Nyerere has always surprised us with his clarity and his humanism", he then said, and went on to recall the many occasions in the past in which the Tanzanian leader had not hesitated to divert material from the Tanzanian economy to support the Mozambican people, both during the liberation war, and after independence.

Ndugu Julius Nyerere had taken this attitude of solidarity, said President Samora, despite the fact that Tanzania was one of the poorest countries in Africa. The relations between Mozambique and Tanzania, he said, were "very special".

The Tanzanian offer, he added, could only be compared with that of the residents of Maputo city itself, who had donated some of their few possessions to assist those who had lost everything in the floods.

"This consolidates our brotherhood", President Samora said "and in our political choice of socialism we are together, and we will win".

CSO: 3400/759

MWINYI REITERATES DETERMINATION TO STRENGTHEN ISLES' DEMOCRACY

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 28 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] THE INTERIM Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council and President of Zanzibar, Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, has reiterated his government's determination to strengthen democracy on the Isles and to curb the abuse of power.

Ndugu Mwinyi told Africa Magazine in an exclusive interview recently that the Zanzibar government's immediate priority was to strengthen and to consolidate the power of the people and their institutions.

Ndugu Mwinyi, appointed late last month to replace Alhaj Aboud Jumbe, said the greatest achievement of the 1964 Zanzibar Revolution which toppled the Sultanate was the liberation of the African from bondage, ridicule and exploitation.

Consolidation of the political climate of freedom and security was, therefore, of cardinal importance, he said. The enhancement of personal security and freedom would facilitate the harnessing of the people's energies and resources for development.

"Thus the immediate priority is the strengthening and consolidation of the power of the people and their institutions. We shall proceed without let up on the path of democratization in the country," he pledged.

On the economic front, Ndugu Mwinyi said the government would energetically implement the rehabilitation programme involving increased clove output. Clove is the leading foreign exchange earner, other cash crops would also be included in the programme.

The government would boost local production of sugar and rice to reduce imports, he added.

He said under the diversification, particular effort would be made to promote fisheries, the livestock and tourism sectors. "Zanzibar can be turned into a tourist paradise with proper exploration and necessary dynamis," he pointed out.

Past mistakes, including poor husbandry of clove, and general management deficiencies, would be rectified.

"We have to look into these (shortcomings) as well as such important issues as pricing policy and incentives to farmers," he said.

Ndugu Mwinyi said the government would, meanwhile, strive to extend social services such as health and medical facilities, education, housing, water, power, communications and land to the entire population.

He appealed for the co-operation of "all our friends abroad willing to help." He said there were thousands of Zanzibaris abroad whose participation would strengthen the Isles economic development.

"All patriotic Zanzibaris have a role to play in the development of our country. We trust they will take up the challenge," he said.

CSO: 3400/759

TANZAM HIGHWAY REOPENED TO ALL TRAFFIC ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 2 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Mkumbwa Ally]

[Excerpt] THE Tanzania-Zambia highway (TANZAM) was re-opened to all traffic on Wednesday night after installation of a Bailey bridge to span Mgoda River between Morogoro and Iringa, where four box culverts collapsed last week.

The Minister for Works, Ndugu Guntram Itatiro, clarified in Dar es Salaam yesterday that closure of the road through which substantial Zambian exports are hauled to Dar es Salaam Port resulted from the collapse of the culverts and not the bridge as reported earlier.

"There is no bridge (on Mgoda River). There is a series of six box culverts, four of which collapsed when Rain water eroded all of the sand surrounding them" the Minister explained.

He said the sand provided strength for the culverts to hold together.

"As far as I know, the road was reopened to all traffic on Wednesday night," he said.

Ndugu Itatiro said the Bailey bridge whose parts were flown from Lindi would act as a stop gap measure. The Ministry was meanwhile, investigating the damage caused on the culverts to launch major repairs, he said.

According to the Minister, TANZAM highway traffic was diverted via Kilosa, some 45 kilometres west of Morogoro town to circumvent the damaged portion. Heavier traffic was compelled to go through Dodoma to rejoin the highway at Iringa or Morogoro, he explained.

The loss caused by the damaged culverts was not immediately known but the Minister said the amount needed for the major repairs would run to millions of shillings.

He explained that the culverts had thick, steel-reinforced walls. The repairs might involve "some modifications" and would cover all the six box structures, he pointed out.

An official of the Ministry hinted that repair work would not be launched until the end of the rainy season. According to the official the repairs would be undertaken by the Ministry's Roads Department.

The Bailey bridge has the capacity to bear all types of vehicles using the TANZAM highway including articulated trucks

Ndugu Itatiro said a number of Bailey bridges were stationed at "zonal centres" for emergency use

CSO: 3400/759

CANADA TO GRANT FUNDS FOR 1983-1984 PROJECT CONSOLIDATION

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 1 Mar 84 p 1

[Article by Daniel Mshana]

[Text] TANZANIA WILL receive a 360m/- grant from Canadian during the period 1983/84 for consolidating its various projects in the country. This follows the conclusion of bilateral consultants in Dar es Salaam last week.

During the talks, the Tanzania team was led by the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. Ndugu F. Kazaura, and the Canadian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Mr. Karl Johansen, led his country's delegation.

A Treasury official said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that Canada renewed its commitment to carry out the wheat programme it is involved in since 1979 in collaboration with the National Agricultural and Food Corporation (NAFCO).

He said under the programme, Canada would conduct research to maximise output in wheat growing areas, with the Basotu farm in Hanang District receiving the biggest attention. Canada would also provide the appropriate infrastructure technical advice and training for the farms personnel.

The official said Canada would also support the completion of the electric power project, known as North-West Transmission Grid covering Dodoma, Singida, Iringa, Shinyanga, Mwanza and Mara regions.

It was also agreed that the project which started in 1982 should be expedited to reduce the reliance on oil-generated power in those regions.

The project, to cost about 1.250m/-, is divided into sections which include the Iringa-Dodoma line to be constructed by the Italian Government; the Dodoma-Mwanza line to be built by the Yugoslav and Canadian governments. Canada had agreed in 1982 to give a grant of 600m/-.

On transport, the official said Canada would continue to strengthen the 1.250-kilometre central railway line to improve the services of the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC).

In 1982 Canada committed about 1,950m/- towards the strengthening of the rail-ways services for the 1982/87 period.

The official said that in line with the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) it was agreed that no new projects would be introduced.

He said a Canadian team was currently visiting those projects for which Canada provided financial support to review the projects progress.

CSO: 3400/759

MWINYI: CCM HAS RIGHT TO EXERCISE SUPREMACY OVER ALL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 6 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpt]

THE Interim Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council and President of Zanzibar, Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi, has stressed that Chama Cha Mapinduzi has a constitutional right to exercise its supremacy over all public affairs in Tanzania Mainland as well as in Zanzibar.

Speaking to Party and Government leaders of Zanzibar North District at Mahonda, yesterday, Ndugu Mwinyi said those who were questioning the authority of the Party in Zanzibar were totally wrong as the concept was also stipulated in the Party Constitution of 1982. *Shineta* reported.

He reminded the leaders, who included the defunct

Afro-Shiraz Party (ASP) veterans, that since the attainment of the Zanzibar revolution, the ASP also exercised authority over all public affairs, including state organs in Zanzibar. There was nobody who questioned the supremacy of ASP, he added.

Likewise, he said, CCM --which the Zanzibar participated to form in 1977 -- had supreme powers to exercise overall public affairs in Tanzania.

He added that the minority group in Zanzibar who questioned the relevance of the CCM supremacy in the Isles were actually worried about the Party's aims to consolidate peoples' power.

This move, he said, eradicated dictatorial powers of the minority group who wanted to impose it over the people.

The Interim President also

called on the people to remain vigilant against the enemies of the Union, stressing that their objectives were to recolonize the Isles for their own benefit.

He noted however that the Union was important for both the Mainland and Zanzibar and emphasized that it should be maintained.

CSO: 3400/759

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO ECONOMIC SABOTAGE DETAINEES RELEASED

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 7 Mar 84 p 1

[Text]

SOME 122 people who were being held in detention under President orders on allegations of economic sabotage were released last week, officials in the Ministry of Home Affairs confirmed in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The officials declined to name the released suspects, but they confirmed that they included Kugis, a transporter in Kagera Region, whose trucks have been vested in the newly-formed Regional Tran-

sport Company under Act of Parliament passed last month.

A detailed statement would be issued by the Minister later, they explained.

It is understood that detention orders against at least 74 other suspects have been withdrawn, but these would remain in confinement because their cases would be dealt with the National Anti-Economic Sabotage Tribunal.

According to the officials property impounded from the released suspects would be returned to them under the procedures followed in repatriating held property.

The Bill under which vehicles belonging to Kugis and other Kagera transporters were acquired provides for monetary compensation to the owners at a fair rate to be decided by the Minister for Finance.

The Anti-Economic Sabotage Act empowers the Government to dispose of impounded perishables, but proper records of the proceeds have to be kept to facilitate fair compensation of owners should they be cleared of sabotage charges.

More than 2,000 suspects were arrested under the crackdown on economic saboteurs and racketeers which began last March. The bulk of these have appeared before the National Anti-Economic Sabotage Tribunal.

According to Tribunal Chairman Justice John Mrosso, 1,745 sabotage cases had been filed with the Tribunal by the end of last year. Some 951 cases, involving 1,244 people, had been disposed of while 723 other cases were still pending.

A total of 951 cases had been withdrawn by the prosecution on various grounds.

CSO: 3400/759

MORE THAN HALF ZANZIBAR POPULATION REGISTERED FOR ELECTIONS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 6 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] SOME 257,000 people more than half the population of Zanzibar estimated at nearly half a million are expected to register for the coming Isles presidential elections the Zanzibar Director of Elections Ndugu Usi Khamis Haji said yesterday.

Ndugu Usi told the Daily News in a telephone interview from Zanzibar that 723 centres had been established at Party branch offices throughout the Isles for the registration of voters beginning on Thursday and running through March 31.

The Director said registration officers had been inducted and registration materials were already at the centres, which will remain open from 7.30 a.m. to six o'clock in the evening.

"Virtually all the centres have been turned up for the exercise.... Whatever final touches needed, will be complete by tomorrow" he explained.

Under the Isles Government Constitution and Presidential Election Act, every Tanzanian aged 18 years and above with permanent residence on the Isles has the right to vote for the presidency.

Tanzanians with permanent residence on the Isles who are temporarily out of the country on official duty or citizens from the Mainland who have stayed for not less than five years on the Isles during the time of elections, also retain the right to vote.

The date for the presidential elections, prompted by the resignation of Alhaj Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi last January 29, is yet to be announced. Under the constitutional provision, the new leader must be elected within 90 days of Nudug Jumbe's resignation, in this case by April 27, this year.

The Party National Executive Committee (NEC), which elected Nudugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi interim Isles President on January 30.

The Zanzibar House of Representatives last week amended the Constitution of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government to empower the NEC Central Committee to make primary nomination of at least two candidates to contest for the post.

The names will be submitted to NEC which will propose a sole candidate to be presented to the electorate.

For a candidate to be declared elected, he or she must win at least half the votes cast. Under the Constitution, a candidate rejected by more than half the electorate will not be deemed elected.

In such eventuality, the entire electoral process would be repeated until a successful candidate is obtained. The elections will be conducted by the Zanzibar Electoral Commission chaired by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The first presidential elections to be held on the Isles since the 1964 revolution that overthrew the Arab oligarchy were held in 1980 and overwhelmingly won by Alhaj Jumbe.

CSO: 3400/759

BRIERS

TALKS WITH NORWAY--BI-ANNUAL consultations between Tanzania and Norway opened in Dar es Salaam yesterday to review old and new areas of co-operation. A statement issued by the Ministry of Finance said the seven-man Norwegian delegation had proposed to assist in forestry. Key areas to which Norwegian assistance is directed include maritime transport, energy, fisheries and water master plan for Kigoma and Rukwa regions. Recipients of Norwegian assistance include the Mbegani Fisheries Institute in Bagamoyo, the Rufiji Basin Development Authority (RUBADA), the Tanzania Coastal Shipping Line (Tacoshili) and the Tanzania Harbours Authority (THA). Leading the Norwegian delegation is the State Secretary in the Ministry of Development Co-operation, Mr. Odd Jostein Saeter. The Tanzania delegation is led by the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Ndugu Fulgence Kazaura. Today's talks will centre on projects in the ministries of Water and Energy, Communications and Transport and Manpower, Development and Administration. Earlier, the Norwegian delegation, which includes the Norwegian Ambassador to Tanzania, Mr Ola Dorum, yesterday paid a courtesy call on the Minister of State in the President's Office Responsible for International Affairs, Ndugu Amir Jamal. [Excerpt] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 8 Mar 84 p 1]

MOVEMENT OF CROPS FROM KAGERA--MOVEMENT of food and cash crops from villages in Kagera Region has improved under efforts by the regional authorities to give priority in fuel allocation to trucks engaged in the exercise. Shihata quoted a statement issued by the Regional Commissioner's Office yesterday as saying that the National Milling Corporation (NMC) had hauled 4,336 tonnes of beans, maize, paddy, millet and cassava which were awaiting collection from the villages. The statement said the Coffee Authority of Tanzania (CAT) had transported 8,560 tonnes of coffee and was in the process of moving 9,119 others. Some 3,000 bales of cotton and 4,000 tonnes of beans being bought from farmers will be moved to processing and storage facilities on arrival of 218,000 litres of gasoil and petrol from Mwanza this week, according to the statement. It said the region received 496,000 litres of gasoil and petrol last month compared to 140,000 litres in January. According to the statement, NMC, CAT, Tanzania Cotton Authority and the regional transport company were given priority during distribution. [Excerpt] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 5 Mar 84 p 1]

SADI, DELEGATION TO CUBA--A SIX-MAN parliamentary delegation led by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Chief Adam Sapi Mkwawa, leaves Dar es Salaam

today for Cuba on a friendly visit. According to a Maelezo release issued in the city yesterday, other members are Ndugu Amina Feruzi (National), Ndugu M. M. Kihaule (Ludewa), Ndugu A. J. Mhina (Korogwe), Ndugu R. M. Sembuli (Morogoro Rural) and Ndugu Wallace Ngoda from the Speaker's Office. The delegation is expected back on March 18. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 6 Mar 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/759

GOVERNMENT DRILLING 80 WATER WELLS MONTHLY

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Mar 84 p 4

[Text] THE Government is drilling an average of 80 boreholes a month to ease the grave drought situation, the Minister of State (Water Resources and Development), Cde Cephas Msipa, said yesterday.

Speaking after reviewing the Mhondoro pilot project, Cde Msipa said the three successive drought years had proved that water was Zimbabwe's lifeblood.

Cde Msipa was accompanied by the Minister of Health, Dr Signey Sekeramayi, the Deputy Minister of Health, Dr Edward Pswarayi, and the Secretary for Health, Dr Office Chidede.

They visited boreholes, protected wells and clinics in Ngwendere, Chitauro and Chakawanda and at Watyoka and Mubayira townships.

Cde Msipa said: "Here we try to encourage community participation through the digging of trenches and the transportation of materials and a good example of community participation is Makosa, in Mutoko, where the total cost of the project was reduced from \$215 000 to \$100 000."

Although the provision of piped water to every rural person was too expensive to be realistic, it was the best solution.

Cde Msipa said his ministry's technical assistance to rural communities in the construction of dams and weirs had been received with enthusiasm and would be accelerated this year so the people would have enough water to grow vegetables when the rains came.

"What we have seen today proves that community participation and appropriate technology can be wisely used to improve and enrich the living conditions of the rural population."

CSO: 3400/761

DEPUTY MINISTER URGES CITIZENS TO PREPARE FOR PRICE INCREASES

Minister Landau's Interview

Harare THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Zimbabweans should prepare themselves for price increases of certain commodities soon, the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr John Landau, said last night.

Interviewed on ZTV's The Nation Programme, Mr Landau said people should be prepared of price increases "all the time". For different businesses to remain viable the Government had to ensure that they made a profit, and in the light of various problems, price increases were sometimes inevitable.

Inflation was slightly more than 17 percent for urban dwellers and less than 34 percent for rural people.

"The Government is very concerned about inflation. Unfortunately, apart from the imposition of price controls, there is very little we can do to rectify this situation.

"A lot of inflationary problems are imported," he said.

On the position of foreign currency, the deputy minister described the US's aid cut to Zimbabwe as "unfortunate" as it would obviously affect the amount of foreign currency allocated to people.

"If aid is cut, then people get less and less foreign currency allocations. The amount of foreign currency we get from outside is directly related to the amount of aid programme we get.

"We do our best to ensure that the foreign currency we get for allocation is used in priority areas only. We have had most unfortunate cases where some of our officials have misbehaved in the allocation of foreign currency," said Mr Landau.

His ministry had a full-proof import allocation system and "we do our best to ensure that it works".

'Prospect Daunting'

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Feb 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Bitter Pill"]

[Text] The Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr John Landau, says Zimbabweans must prepare for a new round of commodity price increases--soon.

How hefty these will be remains to be seen, but coming on top of the increases the public have come to expect almost every time they line up at the supermarket till, the prospect of coughing up still more is daunting.

The nation accepts that in such tough economic times as these there is a need to tighten belts. But with inflation running at almost 18 percent for those in the upper-income bracket and 32 percent for lower-income groups, belts for many have been hitched to the last notch.

It is simplistic to see an across-the-board wage hike as the answer to the problem. The money to pay higher wages has to come from somewhere and it can only come from still higher commodity prices, bringing a very real danger of inflation spiralling out of control.

While every care must be taken to prevent profiteers using the situation to unfair advantage, to resist price increases to the point of jeopardising producer viability is also unacceptable. Driving businesses to the wall only worsens the crisis.

The same applies to stepping up Government price support on staple foods. Again the money has to come from somewhere and devoting a large slice of the annual Budget to subsidies is as inflationary a step as allowing widescale pay rises: the reason the Government decided to drop several hefty subsidies last year.

The burden was just far too great to bear.

The minister points out that "a lot of inflationary problems are imported", and imports are certainly an area to which the Government has turned of late to effect savings.

A nation wrestling with a serious balance-of-payments deficit can well do without imported whisky, wine and dried fruit.

But couldn't we well do without a great many more imported luxuries, thereby making more money available for absolute essentials impossible for us to duplicate, or vital to our export industry?

There are encouraging signs that the world recession is on the way out. But until the ripples reach Zimbabwe there is little choice but to face the harsh reality that wages will continue to fall behind the cost of living.

It is a bitter pill, all the more bitter for the povo, who bear the brunt of the cost-of-living spiral. Swallowing it becomes all the more difficult when stores continue to flaunt luxuries that only the wealthy can afford.

For foreign currency that could be helping the nation over the hump to be squandered on fripperies is a disgraceful state of affairs. It cannot be allowed to continue.

CSO: 3400/741

SOCIALIST CURRICULA MUST REFLECT SOCIALIST ASPIRATIONS

Harare THE HERALD in English 25 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Chimanimani.

For Zimbabwe to achieve a socialist transformation, its education curriculums must reflect socialist aspirations the Prime Minister, Cde Mugabe, said here yesterday.

Opening Rusitu Secondary School, Cde Mugabe said the education system could not afford to "operate in a political vacuum" but should aim to equip the youth to take their rightful places in the socio-economic environment.

He told guests, who included parents and teachers, that education was an "intellectual and physical instrument" through which Zimbabwe could effect the desired changes.

It was important, he said, that young children were taught that labour was crucial for development. "Our whole purpose must be to inculcate a sense of self-reliance through labour in any field of socio-economic activity," he said.

Cde Mugabe commended Rusitu Secondary School for wanting to grow its own food adding that this way, pupils would learn how to farm.

"More importantly, the exercise, if properly managed, will make them realise that co-operative labour can produce high yields for their own consumption thus reducing the cost of buying food elsewhere," he said.

The industrialised production system was complex and needed skilled people. "The education system must therefore take cognisance of that situation," the Prime Minister said.

Cde Mugabe said those who stole school property would not be tolerated.

"We shall always be tough with anybody who takes robbery or theft as a career," he said.

He also told parents to form parent-teacher associations so that they could have reliable communication with headmasters and their staff.--Ziana.

CSO: 3400/741

MUGABE HITS BLACK CITIZENS WHO LOOK DOWN ON OWN CULTURAL TRADITIONS

Harare THE HERALD in English 5 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpt] KADOMA. THE Prime Minister, Cde Robert Mugabe, on Saturday, hit out at black Zimbabweans who, because of some education, looked down on their own cultural traditions.

Cde Mugabe told a mass rally at the official opening of the Mashonaland West cultural festival at Rimuka Stadium here that Zimbabwe should not remain backward but should integrate its culture, traditions and practices with those of other nations that were acceptable.

"But when we take in those new cultures we must not just take everything whether good or bad," he said.

"Why should we take that which is bad because it comes from Jamaica or from America? We are Zimbabwe, We are not America or Jamaica."

He said some of the younger generation were now saying to their parents they could not follow the way their parents lived in the past "because we are educated; we are Form 4 or A level; we are at the university and we cannot play mbira; or women's clubs are for the uneducated".

Good education, the Prime Minister said should take into account Zimbabwe's culture. He said obtaining a university degree or going abroad for further education should not mean that a person no longer ate sadza or traditional dishes.

"You find one cannot even pronounce the word sadza. You hear him say: 'Is it what you call sadza'?"

He said, amidst thunderous applause from the crowd, "are you a child of Zimbabwe born here or were you born in England"?

Cde Mugabe said it was annoying and embarrassing to find some people who after a short sojourn abroad came back speaking English to elderly people and pretending they could no longer speak their own language.

He said he wondered if going abroad changed a human being. "If that is so why wasn't your skin changed from black to white?" he asked.

Cde Mugabe emphasised that Zimbabweans should not forget their culture but should heed the words of the former Ghanaian leader, the late Kwame Nkrumah, that Africans should evolve their own "African personality".

He congratulated those teachers who brought back the Zimbabwean culture into the classroom.

He said pupils throughout the country were now singing and playing traditional dances and songs. This, he said, was very encouraging and should be maintained so that the Zimbabwean culture would not die.

CSO: 3400/761

MINISTER SAYS FAMILY LAW REFORM BILL MUST BE ENACTED

Harare THE HERALD in English 9 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpt] A WIDE-RANGING family law reform Bill containing a uniform law of marriage, a no-fault divorce law and a sexless law of succession must be enacted for all Zimbabweans regardless of sex, race or religion, the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, said yesterday.

Addressing an International Women's Day gathering at Stodart Hall, Mbare, Cde Zvobgo said there should be an equal opportunity statute for children's title to inherit from either or both parents; a just law of custody of children which takes into account only the interests and welfare of children and the means at the disposal of either parent.

He said the Constitution had to be amended to remove sex discrimination where it was allegedly in the interests of African custom.

"This 'Equal Rights Amendment' must come this year and to hell with the consequences, Justice delayed is justice denied. We have delayed for four long years. We must vigorously move forward."

Most African women in Zimbabwe were still groaning under the oppressive yokes of custom, acculturation, male chauvinism, indifference. But the liberation struggle was a shot in the arm for the struggle by women for justice, equality and social progress.

Women had to be encouraged to study science and enrol for technical courses. At university incentives must be offered to female students who enrolled for engineering, agriculture, medicine, mining and veterinary science.

"We must encourage women to enter the world of business and high finance and not condemn those so inclined to selling vegetables and tomatoes at musika or crochet-work along our highways," Cde Zvobgo said.

"The first Zanu (PF) national women's conference next week would usher in a new chapter in the women's long march to emancipation. They will elect a national leadership and ponder various issues and problems facing women, the family and children. They will also adopt serious resolutions for the attention of the (Zanu PF) congress to be held in August."

MANY COMPANIES 'MAKING REAL BREAKTHROUGHS' IN EXPORT MARKETS

Bulawayo THE SUNDAY NEWS in English 4 Mar 84 p 10

[Excerpt] THE shrinking of the domestic market and the ever present problem of rising costs is adversely affecting the profit margins of all local companies.

This comes out in virtually every company report. The typical statement is such as we have from Truworths Zimbabwe Limited which says, "the substantial drop in consumer demand, caused principally by the drought and the economic recession as well as the incidence of high indirect taxation, has created only a marginal increase in sales. This has been insufficient to cover increasing costs, resulting in reduced profit margins...."

In most instances Government is blamed for delays in granting price increases to alleviate the situation or for refusing to grant a price increase, or both. There is no denying that the world recession and the local drought have created problems for the economy while the high sales tax has increased consumer resistance leading to lower sales.

But are companies justified to shift the entire blame for poor results everywhere except on the companies themselves? In particular, not a single word is said about management inefficiencies and other shortcomings--the failure to plan and to anticipate, and the sheer inertia of many executives. The quality of management in many companies still leaves much to be desired.

True, Government bureaucrats are not completely free from blame in delaying to grant price increases which are absolutely justified. They should enlarge their magnifying glasses so as to expedite genuine requests. They also have the responsibility to protect the consumer against unscrupulous profiteers.

The light at the end of the tunnel is that many companies are making real breakthroughs in the export markets. Central African Cables' statement is typical of many. It says, "the efforts to secure export markets are beginning to bear fruit and it is anticipated that 1984 will see a significant increase in foreign exchange earnings." In the face of dwindling foreign exchange allocations it is absolutely vital that the country earns more foreign exchange to finance essential imports.

BUSH WAR REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT MANY SCARS ON ENGLISH MISSION SCHOOL

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 6 Mar 84 p 12

[Article by Brendan Serry]

[Text] PENHALONGA (Eastern Zimbabwe)--Pupils in animated conversation stroll across the green lawn past the tall, twin red-bricked bell towers and massive 3m high wooden doors to the austere imposing chapel.

They crowd around a glass-fronted notice board to study the duty lists for the houses with stiff-upper-lip names--Powell, Gaul, Beaven, Knight-Bruce.

The pressing, muggy heat, clumps of msasa trees and the excitable cadences of black voices are reminders that the cloistered intimacy of an English university town is a universe away, in both distance and culture, from the dust of Africa.

Perched on a rugged, rocky knoll, the vast colonial sentinel of the St Augustine's mission church looks out paternally on the squat thatched-hut villages, farmland and abandoned goldworkings of Penhalonga. Twenty kilometres east, through the the border pine and wattle plantations, lies Mozambique.

The mission school's list of "old boys" reads like a "Who's Who" of the black nationalist struggle in former Rhodesia: assassinated former Zanu head and the country's first black advocate, Herbert Chitepo; Maurice Nyagumbo, long-time detainee in Rhodesia's prison cells and now Cabinet Minister and national organising secretary of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) Party; Earnest Kadungure, Minister of State for Defence; and Simba Makoni, Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture.

And the others, unsung. Those among the hundreds of pupils from St Augustine's who crossed the border during the war to join Mr Mugabe's Zanla armies--leaving behind education, family, and even, as probably the Anglican Church will now acknowledge, their religion.

Many did not come back to see Zimbabwe. Mass graves at Nyadzonia or Chimoio or solitary death in the wilds of Rhodesia marked the end of their struggle.

St Augustine's today still bears the mental scars of war--a war which on occasions reached into its precincts and retreated leaving corpses in its wake.

It anything, says Father Keble Prosser, a tall, spare Englishman--the war brought the St Augustine's community closer together.

"It's quite frightening at times. One gets the feeling that we're isolated from the outside world and the pupils think it's a case of 'us against them' says the impeccably spoken Father Prosser, a monk from the Yorkshire-based Community of the Resurrection, who has been head of St Augustine's since 1974.

This near-xenophobic attitude manifested itself last year, when Father Prosser was at the centre of a demonstration unusual in post-independence Zimbabwe.

Hundreds of students from St Augustine's protested vigorously about ministry of education plans to replace Father Prosser with a black teacher as head of the school.

Following voluble intervention from outspoken Zanu (PF) provincial chairman Mr Edgar Tekere, and having seen the pupils' reaction, the ministry backed down.

Father Prosser says that sometimes there is a remoteness from--almost a resentment of--the decision-makers in Harare. Many of the young men and women now at school are trying to pick up the threads of an education they abandoned to become fighters.

Some are bitter that, apparently, the "victory" and the "revolution" have brought little in the way of benefits for those who actually did the fighting, and dying.

"They see the people who, during the war, sat at dinner tables in London, New York and Stockholm, coming in and being given all the plum positions, while they, the ones who suffered, are struggling" comments Father Prosser.

He is as forthright about the situation as he sees it now--almost four years after Independence--as he was during the days of Mr Ian Smith's government, when he was despised by many whites and regarded as a "communist fellow traveler."

Throughout the darkest days of the war, Father Prosser managed to keep the school going, even though he was under pressure from his church to pull out.

Staying alive meant befriending and helping the guerillas, letting their presence go unreported, giving them money and food and refusing to become part of the security "Agric-Alert" system which linked farms and white outposts.

His occasional letters to the Herald newspaper in the then Salisbury--once stating it was his brightest and best pupils who fled to Mozambique--made him more of a pariah in the white community, which suspected him of being in some way involved in co-ordinating the guerilla activities in the Penhalonga area.

The local farming community's anger mounted as more of their number were killed by the Zanla men. By the time a ceasefire eventually was implemented in December 1979, the outspoken Anglican had put himself beyond the pale as far as whites were concerned. A reply from a Penhalonga resident to one of his newspaper letters elicited the accusation that the priest was either an "unwitting tool of Zanla and blindly leading his flock to oppression" or condoned Marxism.

Even now, says Father Prosser with sadness, those remaining whites in the Penhalonga area avoid him, particularly since he allowed the building of a war memorial to Zanla dead on the mission property.

Relations with local black people have always been at least cordial, even through the war, when youngsters without so much as a backward glance shrugged off everything St Augustine's had meant to them to cross the border.

And how does he feel about South Africa?

An admirer of Archbishop Trevor Huddleston--also a member of the Community of the Resurrection--Father Prosser, smilingly, will not be drawn.

"Honestly, all I can say is that I am not in a position to comment about what is happening in South Africa, because I don't know that country."

He feels though that there is bound to be conflict in South Africa, and although a pacifist himself, like Archbishop Huddleston, he says he can understand why people turn to violence to achieve their aspirations.

CSO: 3400/761

MUZENDA TO PROBE FOOD FLOW INTO CURFEW AREAS IN MATABELELAND SOUTH

Harare THE HERALD in English 7 Mar 84 p 6

[Text] BULAWAYO. THE Deputy Prime Minister, Cde Simon Muzenda, has pledged to investigate the flow of food into areas under curfew in Matabeleland South.

He gave this undertaking on Monday during a question-and-answer session after he opened the annual meeting of the Bulawayo branch of the Chamber of Zimbabwe Industries.

He was asked if he was prepared to make personal inquiries into the position of women and children, believed to be starving in the curfew areas due to the closure of stores and the lack of food going into the areas.

Cde Muzenda said the same question had been asked of the minister concerned at a Cabinet meeting and the following day the minister had announced that food was allowed to go into these areas.

As far as the Government was concerned, essential food was going into the curfew areas.

"But if the question is: Am I prepared to investigate whether food is going through, the answer is yes," said Cde Muzenda.

The Deputy Prime Minister was also asked to travel to Kezi to interview people there who had allegedly been adversely affected by the curfew and army operations in the curfew zone.

Cde Muzenda said there had already been investigations into alleged brutalities and murders by members of 5 Brigade. It had come to light that people who alleged murders had been committed by 5 Brigade did not know the difference between dissidents and army men.

"A witness was interviewed by the Commissioner of Police about four people who were shot and killed and said he knew the killers were from the 5 Brigade because they had told him this.

"But when he was asked if he knew what dissidents looked like, he said he did not. It is well known that dissidents have army uniforms and often pretend to be from the army," said Cde Muzenda.

He said that if people in Kezi wanted to speak to him or if they had any problems they wanted to discuss, it was possible for him to travel to the area.

CSO: 3400/761

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS 'FORGING AHEAD' DESPITE PROBLEMS

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 23 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] Despite the drought and security problems in some parts of Matabeleland South, development programmes are forging ahead.

A spokesman for district development in Nkayi said the 72 km road from Sivalo to Nkayi administrative centre is under construction. Last year a bridge was completed along the same road. A 25-km stretch of road from Sikobokobo rural council clinic to Mbumba Mission Hospital was under construction.

The spokesman said the Mateme Rest Camp, which would be used for development and administrative purposes, was being built. He also said the construction of a council clinic at Mateme had been completed.

A Government hospital was being built at Ngwaladi area (Lower Kana Valley). The hospital would almost be the size of Nkayi District Hospital when completed. Three staff quarters are to be built at the hospital, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said a clinic was under construction in the Sivalo area.

Locals were said to be digging boreholes in self-help projects. Four wells had been dug so far and the people were waiting for UNICEF to complete them. Two drilling machines were being used to drill boreholes in the areas of Gwampa School and Mziwaphansi the spokesman said.

The District Administrator for Bulilima Mangwe, Cde Herbert Matanga, said work on the Madlambuzi to Bambazi 41-km-road was underway and so far 18 km had been completed. The 26 km Maitengwe-Mapholisa Road was being graded and some causeways were also being constructed.

Of the 40 boreholes planned for the district, six had been dug so far. Five air drills were being used to quicken the well digging programme, he said.

Cde Matanga said peasants in the district were involved in self-help projects digging wells. Twelve boreholes were being dug and quite a number of those had struck water.

The only problem being encountered in the well digging programme was that the locals did not have blasting licences. A number had been sent for training and it was hoped that after completing their courses they would help speed up the well digging process, Cde Matanga said.

The District Administrator for Hwange, Cde Herbert Sansole, said 40 boreholes had been granted to the area. Two of these boreholes were almost complete serve for the inside walls that were being built.

CSO: 3400/741

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE REPORTEDLY IN DEEP TROUBLE

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 24 Feb 84 p 11

[Text] Agriculture in Zimbabwe is in deep trouble. Farmers have "spent a fortune" getting through last year and now--in this third drought year--many of them are very deep in debt with no hope of repaying those loans from this season's crops.

This was said by Mr John Laurie, president of the Commercial Farmers Union, during one of his constant on-the-ground visits to agricultural areas this month.

Talking to farmers in the Midlands area Mr Laurie said, as reported in THE FARMER magazine last week:

"Anywhere south of Harare has had a very bad season. Maize is the crop which is worrying me most; there is a very big gap between this year's projected crop and the approximate one million tonnes we had on hand in April last year before the new intake period."

A number of commercial farmers at the various meetings spoke angrily about the problems presented by illegal grazing on their drought-hit farms adjoining communal lands. This was usually preceded by cutting and stealing the fencing dividing commercial farms from communal lands.

Threatened

Apart from the degradation of their grazing, the farmers said the health of their herds was threatened by communal cattle which were "blue with ticks".

One farmer in the Somabula-Shabani area whose farm borders a communal land said that the situation was "out of hand". He had counted 193 herd illegally grazing on his land after his fence had been stolen.

"Heartwater and redwater has spread into my herd and I will lose cattle from disease," he said.

THE FARMER magazine quoted another farmer who said: "Most of the people in communal lands are decent, law-abiding people. It is just the few who are

causing the trouble, and when others see them getting away with illegal grazing and fence stealing, they follow suit."

He said law-breakers must be "hammered hard the first time they commit offences, so that the problem could be nipped in the bud".

Other problems raised by farmers included those concerned with Cold Storage Commission bookings, and the fact that the breeding herd "will be lost" through curtailing of bookings as the cows would "have to go".

Taxation, telephone breakdowns, security, disease encroachment, schooling, criticism of farmers by Government ministers on wages etc. were all said to be of deep concern, but overriding all these were the problems of this third year of drought.

Mr Laurie and various agricultural officials have toured Matabeleland, the Lowveld, south-west Mashonaland and the Midlands, stopping off at Buffalo Range, Bindura and various other centres.

Of his recent impressions of the Kadoma and Suri-Suri cropping areas, Mr Laurie told THE FARMER: "I have never seen such devastated crops in my life".

The crops affected were maize, cotton and soya.

"The maize was virtually a total write-off, the cotton yield has been very much affected and the soya (at present) seem to be battling through," he said of that area.

Mr Laurie reiterated during his Midlands visit that it was "vital to keep farmers on their lands" in order to rebuild Zimbabwe's food reserves to feed the nation, and to provide for essential exports.

CSO: 3400/741

FARM, DOMESTIC WORKERS EXEMPTED FROM LOWER LEVEL INCOME TAX

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 24 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Domestic and agricultural workers will not pay the new lower level income tax proposed by the Government but all other workers earning more than \$100 a month will be liable to pay it unless they already pay tax at a higher rate.

Moving the second reading of the Finance Bill in the House of Assembly yesterday, the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Cde Bernard Chidzero, said the new tax would be levied at a rate of two per cent of earnings from employment, including benefits in kind, but with a deduction for pension contributions.

The tax would be collected on the same basis as pay-as-you-earn tax. Employers not registered for pay purposes who employed people liable to pay the new tax would have to register with their collector of Taxes.

Employers would have to deduct the tax from employees and pay the amount to the Department of Taxes every month. No tax assessments would be needed in most cases.

Explanatory booklets would be issued to employers, Cde Chidzero said.

It had been found necessary for practical reasons to delay the implementation of the new tax until April 1, to coincide with the new tax year, the Minister explained.

He said the new tax would realise \$3 000 000 in what would remain of the financial year but it was expected that in the next financial year it would yield \$20 000 000.

Revenue

Cde Chidzero said the revenue from the new tax would be needed to help meet additional expenditure incurred as a result of the drought, but the revenue implications were not the only justification for the tax.

He believed as incomes increased, people had to make direct contributions to Government expenditure. Those earning \$100 or more lived mainly in

urban or industrial areas and gained more than those in rural areas from Government expenditure, from subsidies and free or subsidised social services such as health and education.

It was not too much to ask low income earners to contribute "in a small way" to the Government's efforts to help the "real poor" who were in rural areas and badly affected by drought, he said.

He said at present direct taxes came from about 100 000 taxpayers and companies.

"I think these lower income earners must assist the Government in reducing its present dependency for its revenues on a small number of taxpayers and companies.

"The people must join hands with the Government in its development of this country through their small contributions and through this new tax."

CSO: 3400/741

AGRITEX REPORT SAYS NATION REMAINED DRY WITH EXCEPTION OF FOUR AREAS

Harare THE HERALD in English 27 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The bulk of crops for Zimbabwe this season will come from Mashonaland West and Central followed closely by Mashonaland East, says Agritex.

The chief of crop production, Cde Douglas Ncube, said in a fortnightly report that fair to good rains were received in Mashonaland East, West, Central and Manicaland while the rest of the country remained hot and dry with isolated showers.

If good rains do not fall now most of the crop in Matabeleland North and South, Masvingo and parts of the Midlands would be written off.

Grazing in the communal sector "is still not comforting" and the veld condition in large-scale commercial areas is beginning to deteriorate and farmers there are "desperately" trying to sell off stock.

"The months ahead could prove to be very critical for livestock," said Cde Ncube's report.

"Water supplies are adequate for the time being. Many streams and rivers are still flowing and dams have either spilled or are filling. Generally we still require plenty of rain."

In his province-by-province analysis Cde Ncube said that in Mashonaland West early planted dryland maize yields could be maintained if cool conditions persist. The crop in Mashonaland East has in most cases been written off. However, recent rains have improved crop prospects in communal areas.

The Manicaland most of the maize in the commercial areas would be reduced by 60 percent despite recent rains. There is not much of a crop to speak of in Masvingo, nor in Matabeleland.

Though early planted maize in Mashonaland Central has been damaged beyond wilting point, the late crop is doing well.

There is a desperate need for rain in Midlands red soils, but the provincial maize outlook promises well for the late planted crop in central areas.

Reaping and curing of flue cured tobacco is in progress in Mashonaland West. Lower leaves are badly scorched but the middle and upper leaves look good. In Mashonaland East the crop is up to standard but with some severe loss of lower leaves. Quality is satisfactory and most farmers will achieve their targets.

In Mashonaland Central curing is in progress with reaping tailing off and crops have recovered from the dry spell.

Cotton is good in Mashonaland West and is satisfactory to good in Mashonaland East. In Mashonaland Central all crops have bolls up to the middle section and the late crop is now flowering.

In Masvingo the crop should produce fair yields and in Manicaland dryland crops are now improving well.

The veld is still critical in Mashonaland West but is improving in Mashonaland East, especially in region IV although varying from fair to poor in other areas.

Grazing is improving in Manicaland and is generally poor in Masvingo, especially in the overstocked areas while in Matabeleland North it is reasonable but lacking in bulk. In Matabeleland South it is very poor in all communal areas and poor to fair in the commercial sector.

CSO: 3400/741

GROUNDNUT PRODUCTION DROPS 'DRASTICALLY' FROM MID-1970's LEVEL

Bulawayo THE SUNDAY NEWS in English 4 Mar 84 p 4

[Text] THE Ministry of Agriculture is carrying out a thorough investigation into groundnut production in Zimbabwe, the Secretary for Agriculture, Cde Robbie Mupawose, said last week.

The investigation was begun last year and when complete its findings will be submitted to the Cabinet.

"We are taking the whole question very seriously indeed and we will be reporting back as soon as we have collected all the data, bearing in mind that we are now about two-thirds through the season," Cde Mupawose said.

Groundnut production has dropped drastically since the mid-1970s, when deliveries to the Grain Marketing Board reached a peak of more than 50 000 tonnes a season. Last year about 9 200 tonnes of unshelled nuts were delivered to the GMB and this year's total is expected to be even lower because of the accumulating effects of drought, the reappearance of the virus disease rosette and pricing factors.

The controlled groundnut price has remained at \$450 a tonne for three years and although illegal middlemen have been selling the crop for about \$1 000 a tonne many growers have turned to other crops such as maize and cotton, whose prices have not remained static.

Groundnuts are regarded as an important secondary cash crop because of cultivation in communal areas, their value as a high protein food ingredient and their food ingredient and their export potential as high quality confectionary.

A decade ago the communal sector accounted for up to 95 percent of national groundnut sales whereas commercial production accounted for about 90 percent of deliveries to the GMB last season.

"Commercial farmers and commercial growers have stopped growing groundnuts because there is no price incentive as with other crops," a spokesman for the Commercial Farmers' Union said last week. "The only way to revive production is through an increase in price." Groundnuts have not been a major source of edible oil and the projected shortfall this season is mainly expected to hit peanut products and exports of high quality nuts to confectionery manufacturers.

SOAP PLANT TO HAVE TWO MILLION DOLLARS EXPORT-EARNING CAPACITY

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 2 Mar 84 p 2

[Text]

AN export-earning capacity of at least \$2 million a year is forecast following the opening of a new soap-making factory by Olivine Industries in Harare.

The extension to the company's present soap factory, which with its new machinery cost \$3,5 million, was opened by the Minister of Industry and Technology, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, on Wednesday.

The extension has a total area of 3 500 square metres, and has been specifically designed to

accommodate new continuous-operation soap-making machinery imported from Italy. The new plant replaces 22-year-old machinery and will have a production capacity of a ton of liquid soap every 15 minutes.

The new installation will also provide significant energy savings — the old plant required 800 kg of steam to produce one ton of liquid soap, the new machinery produces the same amount utilising only 100kg of steam.

Speaking at the opening,

ceremony, the chairman of Olivine Industries, Mr Douglas Dibb, said that the increased production available would enable the company to expand into new export markets. He said that substantial orders had already been obtained.

Exports of Olivine soaps and glycerine, a by-product of the soap-making process, are expected to earn at least \$2 million a year. The imported content of the new plant totalled about \$900 000.

Mr Dibb said that the Olivine group had invested over \$10 million in plant, machinery and buildings since Independence, and had approved plans for further capital expenditure in the oil and soap factories of about \$2 million.

Soap is manufactured from tallow (some of which is available from local sources), coconut oil, caustic soda and salt. Olivine's principal brands are Charm, Jade, Romance and Lido toilet soaps; Perfection green household soap, Skyline and Daily; and Big Ben mottled soap. The company's principal export markets at present are Zambia and Zaire.

CSO: 3400/761

THREE AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH WEST GERMANY

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] Despite having a relatively sophisticated financial system, Zimbabwe's institutions cannot effectively meet all the country's development finance requirements, the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero, said yesterday.

Speaking after signing three agreements worth about \$11,2 million with the West German government, Cde Chidzero said most financial institutions tended to shy away from financing long-term development projects.

The Charge d'Affaires of the West German Embassy, Mr Prot von Kunow, a board member of the German government Reconstruction and Development Bank (KFW), Mr Klaus Burk; and the East and Southern African Director of KFW, Mr Claus-Michael Gurlitt; signed the agreements.

The first agreement was on the participation of the German Government Development Bank (DEG) in the Zimbabwe Development Bank.

Cde Chidzero said the West German government would give the DEG about \$1,2 million which would represent 6 percent of the ZDB's \$50 million share capital.

The Government would hold 51 percent of the shares and the other 49 percent would be issued to institutional shareholders selected by the Government.

The DEG was now one of the founder members of the bank, which was expected to be operational in the first half of this year.

The second agreement was a \$6 million loan for infrastructural equipment for veterinary services.

"This will certainly go a long way in improving the quality of our cattle from the communal areas and will enable us to meet the high standards required to export beef to the European Economic Community," said Cde Chidzero.

Included in the loan, he said, was a \$300 000 grant for the preparation of a study on the economic and social determinants of cattle breeding in the communal areas.

The last was a \$10 million commodity aid agreement which would help finance imports of goods and services from West Germany.

"These agreements and others signed in the past signify continuing cooperation and good and friendly relations between our two countries and Governments based on mutual respect and understanding," said Cde Chidzero.

CSO: 3400/741

STARVATION DEATHS AMONG MOZAMBICANS, CITIZENS IN RUSHINGA NOTED

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 26 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by Mike Hamilton]

[Text] Every day between five and seven starving Mozambicans die at Mukosa, a village in Zimbabwe's Rushinga district near the north-eastern border with Mozambique.

At Rushinga village there is almost one death every day in a Mozambican squatter camp which has sprung up not far from the district administration offices.

Some Mozambican women bring children to Marymount Hospital who are already dead and can only be advised to bury the children in the cemetery near the hospital. The Sister-in-Charge, Sister Maggie, said more than 10 children admitted to the hospital died last month.

The fears expressed by local people when Ziana visited the district in November have become a reality and Zimbabweans are now also dying of starvation. In six of the district's nine wards the local people are "in the same state as the Mozambicans", the district administrator, Cde Kanyandura Kanyau, said.

The casualty rate is higher among Mozambicans than Zimbabweans, possibly because Zimbabweans are sometimes able to obtain some food from relatives working in other areas, Cde Kanyau suggested.

Distances

The fact the Mozambicans have often walked long distances on empty stomachs is probably also a contributory factor. Cde Kanyau said five people, two of them adults, had died in one week at the Mozambique squatter camp near his offices. Almost every day a child or an adult died there, he said.

The deaths among both Mozambicans and Zimbabweans are predominantly among children and elderly people.

Recently it was noticed that a Mozambican man aged about 60 appeared to have been sleeping all day in a tree near the roadside opposite the

Rushinga squatter camp. Investigations showed he was dead, the district's Local Government promotion officer, Cde Mike Nyamutata, said.

The district administrator estimates there are more than 20 000 Mozambicans in the Rushinga district--15 000 of whom have settled in the area and 5 000 of whom at any one time are in transit, mainly on their way to seek work at commercial farms.

At Mukosa between 50 and 60 Mozambicans arrive every day. Mukosa's village court presiding officer, Cde Herbert Kasoro, said most of the daily arrivals now came to exchange goats and even cattle for mealie meal and then returned to Mozambique.

Some have brought donkeys to carry supplies back to Mozambique. However, the journey back is fraught with danger and some said they would prefer to remain at Mukosa as robbers ready to kill for a bag of mealie meal lay in wait for people returning from Zimbabwe.

Cde Kasoro said that Mozambicans who had gone without food for five days or more frequently died after receiving their first meal.

The high rate of deaths had begun about four weeks ago, he said. Initially, two or three people had died a day. Now there were five, six or even seven deaths every day.

Some of the Mozambicans told Ziana that seven Mozambicans had drowned trying to cross the flooded Ruya River recently on the way to Zimbabwe. One member of the group had survived.

Mrs Elizabeth Marume and Miss Tsitsi Nyamutata, who run the Mukosa Clinic, said they dealt with between 30 and 40 new patients every day, most of whom were Mozambicans.

Most were suffering from malnutrition and hunger, particularly children under five and elderly people. Diarrhoea was the main cause of death, they said.

There have been fears, with the number of deaths that are occurring, that the Mozambicans may be dying from disease. However, all the indications at the moment appear to be that the deaths are simply the result of starvation.

CSO: 3400/741

BRIEFS

MAIZE SILO--A new 68 000-tonne maize silo complex, which is under construction at Chegutu, is expected to be ready by July this year and will be able to handle 300 tonnes of maize an hour. The complex, started last August, is one of two that will provide the country with an additional 128 000-tonne maize handling capacity. The other silo complex with a 60 000-tonne capacity is being constructed at Norton and is expected to be operational in July next year. The cost of the two complexes is estimated at \$11 million and is being funded by the United States and Denmark, through the Danish international aid agency, Danida. The two complexes are expected to create jobs for about 200 people. The Grain Marketing Board's general manager, Mr Bill Long, last month said the two complexes would be of tremendous assistance and that when fully operational would save \$10 million or more a year on imports of bags. [Excerpt] [Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 26 Feb 84 p 1]

ROMANIAN BARTER TRADE--The Romanian government is open to negotiations aimed at establishing a barter trading system with Zimbabwe, an official of the country's diplomatic mission said last week. Cde George Dobran, an economic counsellor at the Romanian embassy in Harare, said his government was keen to establish an exchange of commodities programme for any goods that Zimbabwe could offer for export with no currency involved. He cited asbestos as an example. The Romanian government, however, appreciated Zimbabwe's need for foreign currency and was willing to buy such products as nickel with hard currency. Among products Romania was prepared to import from Zimbabwe were ferrochrome, copper, tin, cotton and coffee. In turn Romania could export chemical and electrical products, machine tools, tractors, trucks and cross-country vehicles. Such exports, Cde Dobran said, would be accompanied by the establishment of manufacturing plants and training personnel so that Zimbabwe could develop its own industries for those products. Romania was prepared to give credit facilities for the construction of capital projects, he added. "It is in the interest of Zimbabwe to diversify its trading partners and we are open to negotiations," Cde Dobran said. [Text] [Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 26 Feb 84 p 4]

MP'S TO BULGARIA--Six Zimbabwean parliamentarians are expected to visit Bulgaria soon to look into ways of enhancing co-operation between the two countries. This was announced in an interview last week by the Bulgarian

Ambassador, Cde Christo Koley. He said Bulgarian economic experts were also expected in Harare "very soon" to discuss economic co-operation. Emphasising the importance of co-operatives, he said it had taken Bulgaria 15 years to convince farm owners to form co-operatives. Co-operative ventures between his country and Zimbabwe were hindered by the fact that Zimbabwe's co-operatives were still too weak and much of the land was privately owned. "But still these talks about forming a joint venture are very much in our minds and that of the Zimbabwe Government," Cde Koley said. [Text] [Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 26 Feb 84 p 4]

DROUGHT TOLERANT SEEDS--A new company has been formed to produce and market a wide range of drought-tolerant hybrid agricultural seeds for the Zimbabwean agricultural industry. Savanna Seeds will produce and market white and yellow maize, grain, forage sorghum and sunflower seeds initially, but also intends to offer soya bean and wheat seed in the future. One of the founder members of the company is Mr Joe Kennedy, who already operates two existing horticultural seed companies: National Tested Seeds in Harare and Impala Seeds in Bulawayo. Mr Kennedy said that the company will greatly extend the range, quality and quantity of hybrid maize, sorghum and sunflower seed available. "We are placing particular emphasis on drought tolerance", Mr Kennedy told THE GAZETTE. The company also hopes to attract foreign expertise and investment for the research and testing of seeds under local conditions, and to become a currency earner by exporting local seeds. Savanna Seeds has exclusive rights for the production and marketing of Pioneer (PNR) maize, sorghum and sunflower hybrids in Zimbabwe. Mr Kennedy claimed that the PNR range was noted for proven drought tolerance, high yield potential, lodging resistance and multi-cobbing. "All Savanna PNR hybrids have performed well in statistical trials and commercial plantings in Zimbabwe and other SADCC countries over a number of years", Mr Kennedy said. Savanna is also involved with the Odalfo range of wheat and soya cultivars. The company is launching its drought resistant varieties at a field expo at Sigaro Farm on March 7 and 8. [Text] [Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 24 Feb 84 p 6]

FUNDS TO MATABELELAND SECURITY FUND--Despite being hit by economic and drought problems themselves, a large number of privately-owned agricultural and industrial companies have joined with commodity and farmers' associations throughout Zimbabwe to help their fellow-farmers in the dissident affected areas of Matabeleland. The commodity associations involved in grain, cattle, cotton, coffee, poultry, oilseeds and dairy operations under the Commercial Farmers Union, and the CFU itself, have granted large amounts of money to the Matabeleland security fund. A report in last week's issue of THE FARMER magazine said this has followed a visit by CFU president, Mr John Laurie, last year to the farmers in Matabeleland when he saw their serious plight. He then decided that outside assistance was badly needed to enable them to purchase additional security equipment. This gave business houses and other farmers an opportunity to offer sympathy and help in a tangible form to those affected in Matabeleland. The report lists all the firms who have combined to offer this help. In addition the Astra Corporation is sponsoring a free suite at the Bulawayo Sun Hotel every Saturday night for the use of CFU members who seek a respite "from the tension of life in the dissident affected areas." This week the

manager of the Bulawayo Sun Hotel told a GAZETTE reporter that this suite is booked regularly every week, through the CFU, with farming couples (and sometimes their children) who come for a "break" from outlying areas. "We are very glad to see them and we try to give them red-carpet treatment. They need some relief and fun these days," said hotel manager Mr Paul Perez. "We also offer a special rate for any other farmer who comes to our hotel for a night or a weekend 'away from it all'." [Text] [Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 24 Feb 84 p 5]

REACTION TO MINI-BUDGET--This week's mini-budget was greeted with much relief, but some disappointment, by the business community. The general consensus seems to be that businessmen are grateful that the tax burden has not been further increased. "Although it is hard to see how the Minister could have increased what is already an intolerable level of taxation," an industrialist commented. The disappointment was expressed by those who had hoped for a small decrease in sales tax to stimulate consumer spending. "The present level has confirmed the law of diminishing returns", an executive in one of the leading retail stores told THE GAZETTE. Some disquiet has been felt that the Government has found it necessary to finance the supplementary estimates from borrowings. "Unfortunately, we have not been told whether the loans sought will be local or foreign; either way, of course, they will be inflationary", a banker commented. [Text] [Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 24 Feb 84 p 1]

DEMOBILIZATION STATISTICS--Nearly 36 000 ex-combatants have been demobilised since the exercise started in 1981. Of the 35 763 demobilised ex-combatants, just over 18 000 are currently not formally employed. The Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Cde Robson Manyika, gave these figures in the House of Assembly yesterday. His Ministry was encouraging those not gainfully engaged or employed, most of whom had low educational qualifications, to get involved in self-reliant projects. Cde Manyika, who was answering questions from the Member for Mashonaland East, Cde Horace Nyazika, said most of the unemployed ex-combatants were engaged in some form of non-formal productive type of work which were cash-generating. He said his Ministry was also involved in employment creation through the formation of agro-economic commercial co-operatives to accommodate some demobilised ex-combatants. Through other Government institutions, he said, the Ministry had entered into special agreements in which priority had been accorded to demobilised ex-combatants in such areas as the Support Unit, special constabulary, the municipal police and other law enforcement agencies. [Text] [Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 25 Feb 84 p 1]

TANZANIA ORDERS PLOWS--A Bulawayo firm has received about \$750 000 worth of an order from Tanzania for ox-drawn ploughs. The firm, Bulawayo Steel Products (BSP), dispatched the first consignment of 20 000 ploughs on January 21, and is presently working "at full blast" to try and clear the order not later than the end of next month. The significant aspect about this order is that it is from one of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) states, and the ploughs are being transported by our own railways, those of Zambia as well as the Zambia-Tanzania railway," the BSP managing director, Mr Roger Clark, said yesterday. He

said it was the largest single order his firm had ever received. "In addition to it, we have already had another for nearly \$10 000 worth of spare parts for the ploughs," Mr Clark said. He said in the past Tanzania bought its ploughs from India. "This time both our prices and delivery time were quite competitive," said Mr Clark. BSP is also supplying Tanzania with forged hooks but through a Harare-based manufacturer which sells to the East African SADC member-state trek-chains to which the hooks are attached. "We are presently negotiating with Zambia and Kenya for more business from these states," he said, adding that the firm had already sold axes to Kenya, and a variety of equipment to Malawi, Lesotho as well as Swaziland and even Uganda. "We are particularly pleased with the Tanzanian order not just because it is the largest we have had, but because it represents practical business between SADC states," he said. [By Saul Ndlovu] [Text] [Bulawayo THE SUNDAY NEWS in English 26 Feb 84 p 1]

CITIZENSHIP APPLICATIONS--ALL applications for Zimbabwean citizenship by registration or naturalisation will be suspended until the new Citizenship Bill becomes law, the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Sam Mubako, said last night. The new Bill, which seeks among other things to abolish dual citizenship in this country, would require prospective Zimbabweans to have stayed here for at least five years. Under the present law, a person could be granted citizenship by registration after living in Zimbabwe for two years. Cde Mubako also warned employers that it was illegal to employ visitors to this country unless they had temporary employment permits. Both the visitor and the employer could be prosecuted if they committed this offence. "The fact that a person has been granted a temporary employment permit does not entitle his or her spouse or child to take up employment in this country. A separate application by the spouse or child must be made," Cde Mubako said in a statement. "Of late, a considerable number of applications have been made to me for waivers from this requirement. In future, applications for waivers will not be granted." It took some time before applications for permits were approved because the Government had to decide carefully depending on the shortage of the expatriate's skills. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Mar 84 p 1]

MAIZE SHORTAGE--ZIMBABWE will have enough maize to take it through 1985, the Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, has assured the nation. He told The Herald in an interview on Wednesday that contingency plans had been drawn up, covering the importation of maize from Malawi to meet the country's requirement. "We have maize on target," the minister said. Measures would be taken to increase the present maize allocations to millers to ensure that there was enough maize meal throughout the country. This would be done when the maize from Malawi had arrived and the new intake had been received. The Government is buying about 40 000 tonnes of maize from Malawi to supplement the existing national stocks which have been depleted by the drought. Senator Norman was reacting to reported temporary shortages of maize meal in some parts of the country. The Minister of State (Industry and Technology), Cde Kumbirai Kangai, ruled out any maize shortages in the future. He said the Government was planning to ensure that everyone in the country had enough food. President of the Millers' Association, Mr Keith Watt, said the millers were working flat out to ensure that all the maize they received from the Grain Marketing Board was milled without delay. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 9 Mar 84 p 1]

CURFEW HARDSHIP AREAS--THE Minister of Home Affairs, Cde Simbi Mubako, yesterday assured the Senate that the Government has taken measures to alleviate any hardship for people in the curfew areas of Matabeleland South. He was asked by Senator Chief Masilu Nyathi whether he was aware that people in the curfew area in Gwanda were starving and whether he would devise ways for food to reach the areas. He said although in some areas there was a shortage of certain types of food, "this does not mean there is no food at all". Senator Chief Nyathi also complained to the Minister of Education, Dr Dzingai Mutumbuka that schoolchildren in the curfew areas attended lessons without anything to eat. Cde Mutumbuka said although the control and provision of food in the curfew areas was the responsibility of the ministry responsible for the security forces, he would welcome information of specific cases to have them investigated and rectified. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 9 Mar 84 p 4]

SORGHUM SELF-SUFFICIENCY--INDICATIONS are that Zimbabwe is poised to return to sorghum self-sufficiency this season, the agricultural manager of Chibuku Breweries, Mr John Brown, said yesterday. Mr Brown said there was a chance that deliveries to the Grain Marketing Board would meet local requirements. It had been calculated that at the present rate of rationing 9 000 tonnes imported from Argentina recently should last until June when the new crop would be harvested. To obviate costly imports, Zimbabwe should aim to maintain a surplus of 8 000 tonnes. Chibuku has gone out of its way to stimulate local production by trebling the prize money in its annual national sorghum growing competition. [Excerpt] [Harare THE HERALD in English 9 Mar 84 p 7]

DAILY STARVATION TOLL--ABOUT three people are dying from hunger each day in the Mozambican settlement in Rushinga district in Zimbabwe's north-east, reports a Harare-based photo-journalist. There are about 400 families at the growing settlement and their ages range from a month-old baby to an 80-year-old woman. According to the area's district administrator, Cde Kanyandura Kanyau, the families were moved to the site on the advice of the Ministry of Health. The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society visited the area recently to see whether the families could have access to adequate clean water supplies and how they could be provided with regular food. The British High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Martin Ewans, visited the area last week with some maize meal for the destitute families, and on Friday the mission announced it would grant them 10 000 tonnes of maize and provide four trucks. [Text] [Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 4 Mar 84 p 1]

MALAWI MAIZE PURCHASE--ZIMBABWE is to buy 40 000 tonnes of maize from Malawi, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Cde Robbie Mupawose, confirmed in Harare yesterday. He said the cost of maize was still being worked out by the Agricultural Marketing Authority. "The 40 000 tonnes of maize is being bought by the Government. In addition, we are also importing 10 000 tonnes from Malawi which was donated by the British government for drought relief," said Cde Mupawose.--Ziana. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 7 Mar 84 p 1]

SECOND LARGEST EXODUS--Harare.--Zimbabwe lost 19 067 emigrants last year-- the second biggest exodus since independence in April, 1980, according to official figures published yesterday. A total of 74 781 people left Zimbabwe for good between January 1980 and December last year, the Central Statistical Office said in its monthly migration bulletin. While the bulletin does not specify the race of emigrants immigration officials say most of those who left were Whites. The number of emigrants was 17 240 in the year of independence, 20 534 following year and 17 942 in 1982. In the same period Zimbabwe attracted 28 870 immigrants, mainly Black Zimbabweans returned from exile abroad after nine decades of White minority rule and a seven year war for independence.--Sapa-AP. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 3 Mar 84 p 2]

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